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### REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS.

*Letters to the North, from a Traveller in the South.* By J. K. 12mo. pp. 110. Belfast, Hodgson; Dublin, Milliken and Son.

THIS tasteful volume is, we understand, the production of Mr. Emerson Tennent, M.P. for Belfast, and portions of it have already appeared in the columns of the *Ulster Times*. It contains the records of a tour in the south of Ireland during the summer of last year. It is written in a particularly lively and attractive style, and, without any pretensions to laborious investigation or profound reflection, either moral or political, presents such notes and observations of his travel, as a man of taste and information can, without any great effort, render instructive and amusing, even in the most hurried excursion through an interesting country. The author observes, in his Preface, that the letters which form the volume "were despatched every evening to the post, whilst his thoughts were still occupied with the scenes and impressions of the day to which they refer, without correction or finish; and that they go to the press as they thus came from the pen. "I do not pretend to describe," he adds, "what I have seen, but merely to point out to others, who are so disposed, what they may see for themselves: and, above all, to suggest to those who are on the wing for some distant excursion, that there are some things worth a visit at home." From our perusal of the volume we are disposed to believe that this statement is literally correct. The scenes are evidently coloured on the spot, "and the remarks struck off at a heat," at the very moment of their suggestion. The author's tour extends through the most picturesque portions of the counties of Antrim, Down, Louth, Meath, Dublin, Kildare, Carlow, Kilkenny, Tipperary, Cork, Waterford, Kerry (including Killarney), Limerick, Clare, Galway, Westmeath, Longford, Cavan, Monaghan, and Armagh; and we have no hesitation in pronouncing his "Letters" to be one of the best manuals we have met with to direct the attention of any traveller, who designs visiting Ireland, to the most interesting and remarkable scenes which he ought to seek for in his route.

As an appropriate commencement, we shall extract, as a specimen of Mr. Tennent's lively style, his account of that singular vehicle, an Irish post-chaise.

"In all the provincial towns in Ireland, one of the most important objects is the post-chaise of the 'head inn,' as the best hotel is usually called. Its 'goings out and its comings in' are matters of record, and materials for history to the inhabitants—subjects of deep speculation, before the nature of the expedition is ascertained, and of most interesting gossip and discussion, after its occupants and destination have been officially made public. With this important vehicle are associated all the reminiscences of those intelligent remembrancers, 'the oldest inhabitants,' and its slightest movements are the wonder and delight of all the urchins of the village. Like Wordsworth's ancient beggar, who was so aged that people wondered if he ever could have been young, the genuine Irish post-chaise is always found so much worn

out, that we almost doubt whether it ever could have been new. But even this apparent imperfection of its nature, is a vast advantage to the household servants of its immediate proprietor; for its endless craving for repairs affords constant employment for every vacant hour, and any idler who would plead in his defence 'that he had nothing to do,' is sure to be asked, 'Why he does not take a turn at mendin' the chay?' Notwithstanding this never-failing necessity for mending, the repairs, in nine cases out of ten, are never performed till the very minute of starting; and then the box of rusty nails, together with all manner of ropes and cordage, are put into brisk demand, whilst the sound of the hammer, as it rings on the splinter-bar, gives the signal to all the gossips to crowd round the inn door, and eagerly inquire the names, the destination, and the business, of the intended travellers. Some important departure seemed to have been intimated to the landlady of the Wheat-Sheaf, at Carlow, on the evening we slept there; for long before day-light we were awoken by the 'clang of arms' beneath our windows, where no less than three of these interesting machines were undergoing the process of preparation for the road, under the hammer and wrenches of as many long-coated postilions. Two of these, we afterwards learned, were destined to accompany the funeral of what was esteemed a very unusual character in Carlow—a non-agitating priest—who was to be buried that morning; and the other was to convey an old lady and her daughter in some direction on the north road. The latter party drove off as we were sitting down to breakfast; but we felt a little alarmed on seeing them return in about half an hour—the old lady in a state of the highest agitation, and the post-boy vociferating at the top of his voice. In reply to our inquiries as to what had frightened the ladies—"Och, nothin' in life, then, replied the old waiter, Phil Henesay, 'but ould Mrs. P—, in the po-chay, that's scared out of her wits, bekase that stupid omadaun of a post-boy was taking her to Ballitore in place of Athly!'"

We regret that we have not space to insert the author's striking description of the superb ruins which crown the celebrated Rock of Cashel, and which he pronounces to be "the most extraordinary, interesting, and beautiful in the British dominions." They consist of a vast assemblage of round towers, antique ecclesiastical edifices, Saxon chapels, a Gothic cathedral of immense extent, and the ancient palaces of the kings of Munster, all crowded together on the summit of a bold and insulated cliff, which starts up to the height of 200 feet, in the centre of a plain 90 miles in length by 40 broad. From the summit Mr. Tennent states, that the traveller can take in, at one glance, this vast plain, bounded by the Galtee mountains, and covered with the ruins of upwards of one hundred abbeyes, castles, monasteries, and other ancient edifices.

The following passage gives a fine conception of the echoes at Killarney:—

"Leaving the upper lake by one of those tortuous channels, we reached the foot of the magnificent conical cliff called the Eagle's Nest. Here we landed to fire off a cannon, in order to

awake the echo, which, in this spot, is grand beyond description. At each shot, the report was echoed and returned from a thousand points at the same moment; and, each repeating its own sound, again and again, till it died away, the whole amphitheatre of hills resounded with one mingled roar of artillery, closely resembling, but louder a thousand times, than the wildest thunder I ever heard. In my existence, I never listened to any sound so truly sublime as the cannon's echo at the Eagle's Nest. This being ended, the bugle-player who accompanied us, Mr. Spillan, belonging to the band of the Kerry Regiment, played some airs at the foot of the mountain, and any thing more heavenly than the echo which accompanied them, it is totally impossible to conceive. Each note was re-echoed with a sweetness that made the original appear but discord; as if Nature in this, the only instance in which she stoops to imitate art, only made the effort, in order to shew how infinitely she can surpass her master. Each cadence, as it fell, was caught up by the echo of the nearest cliff, and then repeated by each surrounding height, the sound at each reiteration diminishing in volume, but redoubling in sweetness, till the whole died away in sound so delicious, and 'withal so fine, that nothing lives 'twixt it and silence.'

'A voice, we know not whence, repeats the strain,  
A thousand tongues invisible reply,  
In mimic note again, and yet again;  
Till faint in distance the sweet echoes die—  
Like ascending choirs of angels to the sky!"

The following notice of the residence of Spenser, the poet, in Ireland, during the reign of Elizabeth, will be read with much interest:

"The Castle of Buttevant, now modernised, and fitted up as the residence of Sir James Anderson, is built on a cliff above the river Awbeg, on which the town is situated. On this stream, about four miles further down, are the ruins of Kilcolman, the residence of Edmund Spenser, the poet. Of this truly interesting ruin, in which Spenser composed his 'Fairy Queen,' and where he received the visits of Sir W. Raleigh, little now remains, save a single turret and a few lonely walls upon a little elevation, beneath which flows the neglected waters of the Awbeg, or, as Spenser has named it, the

'Mulla, mine, whose waves I whilome taught to weep;  
and where he describes himself as wandering in

"The coolly shade  
Of the green alders by the Mulla's shore."

Kilcolman, with its castle, and three thousand acres of the forfeited Desmond territory, were conferred on Spenser by Elizabeth; and here, having married (as he himself describes her) 'a country lass of low degree,' he continued to reside for nearly ten years, in compliance with the terms of the grant, which enjoined residence on his estates; this being one of Elizabeth's favourite schemes for tranquillising Ireland by the location of English settlers. But the turbulent spirit of the Irish regarded little the peaceful pursuits of the gentle poet. In one of those wild commotions excited by the Earl of Tyrone, his castle was fired by the Irish, his infant child perished in the flames, and

Spenser, broken-hearted and impoverished, returned to England, and died in an obscure residence in King Street, Westminster. His name and his reputation seem now alike forgotten, amidst the very scenes which he has contributed to immortalise. We sounded several of the peasantry to discover whether they knew any thing of the poet, but in vain; the only answer in the affirmative was a characteristic one from our postilion, who, in return to our inquiry whether he had ever heard of Spenser at Kilkoman, replied, 'Is it Mr. Spenser of Kilkoman, your honour? Troth, then, I can't just say that I ever heard tell of him; but I suppose he goes round by Doneraile way, for he never took horses in Mallow in my time, sir.'"

To this we would wish, if space permitted, to append a similar notice of Goldsmith's residence at Auburn; but we are compelled to omit these lighter extracts, in order to make room for one of more national interest.—Mr. Emerson Tennent's account of that superb but neglected source of national improvement and prosperity, the River Shannon. In every sentence of the following rapid but masterly description of that superb river we are prepared, from personal knowledge, most fully to concur.

Banagher, Oct. 4th, 1833.

"I have now sailed along the principal portion which has, as yet, been rendered available of the Shannon navigation. I have seen that magnificent river, with its lakes, its bays, and its tributaries, and I have not words to express my admiration of its beauties, and my astonishment at the extent of its hitherto dormant capabilities. I defy any Irishman to survey this unrivalled river, navigable from the sea up to its very mountain source, and not to return with a more exalted idea of his country and its resources. We have no river in the empire that can vie with it. What is the Thames, or the Mersey, or the Severn, compared with the Shannon? Nor do I know a navigable river in Europe, that can be put in comparison with what the Shannon may be, and I trust, ere long, will become. Can the Rhine, or the Elbe, or the Seine, or the Tagus, for one moment, compete with a river which, with its tributaries, exhibits upwards of three hundred and fifty miles of uninterrupted navigation, opening up seven hundred miles of the richest coast in Ireland, rushing like an artery through the very heart of the kingdom, and only imploring enterprise and adventure, to burden its waters with the teeming produce of one of the most fertile regions in the universe? Although I had paid no inconsiderable attention to the Shannon before, I confess I was comparatively ignorant of its importance and vast resources, till I had seen them with my own eyes. This we were enabled to do by the kindness of Mr. Williams, the intelligent and enterprising director of the Navigation Company—a man whose name will be immortalised by his present exertions and undertakings on the Shannon. Mr. Williams is doing more real practical good to Ireland in any one month, than all the brawling patriots in the kingdom have ever effected in their united existences. By his kindness we were enabled to proceed up the river in one of the Company's steamers; and a more splendid excursion imagination cannot conceive. The only alloy to its pleasures, is the irresistible indignation which one momentarily feels, to see such a source of national wealth and prosperity so utterly and cruelly neglected and abandoned. There is scarcely a practical cause to which the present evils of Ireland are attributed, for which a panacea

might not be found in the waters of the Shannon. Produce, employment, and capital, are all to be drawn from this glorious stream; and yet here it flows away, despised and rejected, whilst we are making hourly and bitter complaints about a starving peasantry, a dearth of employment, irremunerative labour, and a tide of famishing emigration. Let us remove but the obstructions of the Shannon, and we shall pour a flood of wealth not only over Ireland, but over Britain. At the present moment the river is freely navigable from the sea to Limerick, a distance of sixty miles. From Limerick to Killaloe, owing to the rapids I have mentioned at Castle Connell, vessels are obliged to pass through three short canals, to avoid the shoal water: O'Brien's bridge likewise presented an obstacle; but this has been removed by the Company's taking down and enlarging one arch for the passage of their boats. From Killaloe to Portumna, and thence to Banagher, the passage lies chiefly through the broad waters of Lough Derg, and the only obstruction lies again in the shoals below the latter town, which are passed by means of another lock and canal. Above Banagher, the navigation to Athlone has little or no obstruction, except from the smallness of the arches of the bridges across the river, which, especially during the floods of winter, are too small to admit the free passage of the steamers; and, singular as it may seem, the trustees of these bridges have thrown every obstacle in the way of the Company to enlarge or to alter them! But, independently of the difficulties I have mentioned, there are a host of other desiderata which are still indispensable to the free navigation of the Shannon: the opening of proper channels for the water where it is obstructed by shoals; and the construction of weirs, for the purpose of retaining in summer a sufficient supply, and in winter for letting off the surplus, which otherwise overflows the low grounds, and frequently, remaining too long upon the soil, destroys instead of irrigating it. These, with the making of landing places, the fixing of cranes and sheds, the building of stores, the cutting of roads inland, and a thousand other minor improvements, are still wanting to render the deep water available for all the purposes of trade and speedy intercourse. The passage from the source of the Shannon to the sea, some years back, occupied the country-boats from four to five weeks: it is now much shortened by the operations of the Steam Navigation Company; but were the improvements to which I have alluded—and all of which are embodied in the reports of the engineers who, from time to time, have surveyed the river—were these all carried into effect, the passage could be made in one day from Leitrim to Limerick, between the counties Sligo, Roscommon, Mayo, Galway, Clare, Longford, King's County, and Tipperary. Can you conceive a national object so vast and so important as this?—and yet this stupendous enterprise, worthy all the energies of a powerful government, has hitherto been abandoned almost altogether to private speculation, or tantalised with the show of an assistance that was little better than an impediment. Since the reign of Queen Anne, down to the sixth of William IV. we have been haranguing, and writing, and surveying, and reporting, and making speeches and motions, and appointing commissions and committees for "improving the navigation of the Shannon," and, with the exception of what has been done by the Dublin Steam Company, literally nothing has been yet effected. Never was there a more practical

illustration than the case of the Shannon, of the well-known fact, that a committee of the House of Commons is but a postponement of a remedy. Oh! if all the Irish members would only imitate the conduct of the Scotch representatives, who, whatever may be their political differences, pull together like one man for any national object, how soon should we have steam-boats smoking round Lough Allen! But, whilst Scotland has been getting million after million to improve *her* navigations—whilst England is covered with a net-work of canals and of railroads—whilst we are even spending the taxes of Irishmen in navigating the rivers of Canada, and cutting canals to enable the Americans to send their flour and their corn to undersell us in the Liverpool markets, the Shannon stagnates behind its shoals, or tumbles in cataracts over its unnavigable rapids; and, to use the words of Colonel Burgoyne, of the Board of Works—'where forests of masts, and the bustling activity of commerce should be witnessed, the scene is desolate.'"

The above extract, coupled with our preceding ones, affords a fair specimen of Mr. Emerson Tennent's volume, which abounds with passages of equal interest and elegance; and we can strongly recommend it as a post-chaise companion to all who meditate an instructive as well as an amusing tour of the South of Ireland.

*The Married Unmarried.* By the Author of "Almack's Revisited." 3 vols. 12mo. London, 1837. Saunders and Odey.

THIS is the stirring story of an orphan boy, brought up among poor fishermen on the coast of Devon, and stoutly painting Toryism in its worst colours, as would become a Reformer of the present day. The first volume is addressed to his boyhood; and the workhouse, school-flogging, and other incidents enable the author to shew up squires, vicars, overseers, clerical schoolmasters, and other notorious characters. But calamity attends the unfortunate youth; and, though he nobly saves the life of a companion, the son and heir of a peer, he is, through some villany, *convinced* of being a thief, and ignominiously expelled from the school to which he had been sent by an unknown friend in Wiltshire. He now embarks in various wandering adventures, mostly in low life; and draws vivid, occasionally a little coarse, pictures of them. Gipsies, poachers, strolling players, soldiers, robbers, &c. figure on the scene. These occupy Volume II., and Volume III. shifts to London. Here we give a specimen of the work; and have only to add, that, in the end, the hero turns out to be somebody. He is sent out to be new-clothed by his mistress, on an important event in his favour which causes him to be invited by a lady of high rank.

"Dear me!" added my mistress, with that kind of maternal feeling which, in despite of her apparent vulgarity, formed the basis of her character, 'if you are to dine with the Countess of Castlerose, have you got a nice frilled shirt, and decent things? You can't go in that kind of tumble-come-trundle dress; you'll want a pair of pumps, and silk stockings, and a white waistcoat. I'd advise you to step out with Simon into Cheapside, and order some ready-made fashionable clothes, and I'll tell Mary to get you a shirt nicely plaited, and a cravat done up with some starch: you can't dine with a countess without starch.' This important part of the morrow's ceremony had never struck me; nor, indeed, was I aware, until I looked at myself in the handsome mirror which decorated the lower end of the worthy

citizen's dining-room, that my cravat was twisted round my neck like a halter, and that my coat, which formerly belonged to Captain Rightford, hung upon me like a sack. Simon was now summoned; and, under his guidance, I was taken first to a tailor's, celebrated for fitting out the young city bucks, and then to a hosier's and shoemaker's, where I was furnished with the essential articles recommended by Mrs. Figmat, who desired me to tell the tradesmen to send my purchases and the bills to the house, and by no means to put a farthing in my pocket, or the pick-pockets would soon discover my being a stranger, and rob me of every shilling; for that the police was so bad that it was not safe for any one to walk the streets. It was fortunate that I did so; for, as I was turning round the corner by the Bank, I felt a pull at my coat, and saw my pocket-handkerchief transferred to other hands: and, although I turned round and seized the culprit, and although a city constable was standing by, he was allowed to escape, because 'he had not got it'; and all I got for attempting to act the part of a thief-taker, was a laugh from the bystanders, and some severe blows on the head from some of the rogue's accomplices, who surrounded and hustled me. As it was not exactly accordant with my notions of honour to receive a blow without retaliating, and as my blood was up, I requested a well-dressed, civil-looking gentleman, who was crying, 'Shame! shame!' to hold my coat whilst I avenged myself. He kindly consented, saying that I was a brave young cock, and that he would stand by me. I, therefore, threw it off, and in a moment pitched into one of my aggressors with such vigour that he soon gave up the contest; and, as no one came forward to take his part, I turned round to thank my bottle-holder and recover my garment. But he had disappeared like Asmodeus, bottle, coat, and all; and the only consolation I heard was, 'Why, you flat, he was one of the swell mob; you'll never see it again.' A crowd having collected, and there being no danger, the police thought it time to interfere; so three or four watchmen came up, collared me, swore I also was one of the gang, and that I had only got up a sham-fight in order to make a stoppage in the street, and thus give a better opportunity to my confederates for picking pockets. In vain I protested, declaring I was a total stranger, and clerk to Mr. Figmat of Lothbury; and called upon Simon to bear witness to my respectability. I might as well have sung lullaby to the falls of Schaffhausen. The footboy shrunk back, and left me to my fate; and the watchmen, whose numbers increased when they found there was no one to contend with, dragged me to the watchhouse, amidst the shouts and laughter of the thieves, and other vile characters who had assembled around. When we reached this filthy, inodorous palace of nocturnal justice, I was poked into a sort of cellar, or under-ground strong-room, where I found two or three unfortunate women in a brutal state of intoxication; an Irish paviour, who had been unmercifully beating his own wife; a footman from the Mansion House, who had been caught in the act of kissing the spouse of the lord-mayor's valet, and had kicked the husband's shins for objecting to his proceedings; a hackney-coachman, who had broken a tapster's head with a porter-pot, for questioning the genuineness of a most unmitigated sixpence; two miserable Savoyards, who had been incarcerated because they thought they had as much right to treat the citizens to the music of their organs as the old fish-women had to em-

ploy theirs in the inharmonious operation of crying, 'sprats!' and lastly, a jolly tar, who considered himself entitled to spend the prize-money he had won from the French, in breaking the French plate-glass windows of a citizen's shop. In a few minutes I was called up to answer for my misdeeds before the sort of Midas who gloried in the title of 'constable of the night'; and who was sitting with a pipe in his mouth, a Welsh wig on his head, a Welsh rabbit and a pot of porter on his table, and, by his side, a pale-faced lad who acted as scribe, the chirographic portion of his worship's education having been omitted. At the moment I entered, this worthy was disposing of the domestic dispute between the Irishman and his wife. 'You are a proper vagabone!' exclaimed he, addressing the former; 'how could you ill-use this here poor woman after that there brutal manner? why, you must have taken a stick as thick as my wrist, and the law says it mayn't be bigger nor your thumb.' 'Faith, your worship,' replied the culprit, 'it isn't myself sure that never used no unlawful instrument.' 'Gammon!' exclaimed the judge. 'It's thrue as Gospel,' rejoined the paviour; 'for I knows the law, your honour, and all I bate her wid was my pockyhandkychee.' 'Gammon!' ejaculated the other. 'It may be a whole hog, your worship, and a farrow of pigs besides,' replied the husband; 'but I'll take my Bible out it's thrue by that same. Isn't it, Judy, darling?' 'Gammon!' again puffed out his honour. 'Faith, and what Dennis says is as true as the wig on your worship's head,' answered the wife, with a cursey. 'Gammon!' once more exclaimed the constable; adding, 'what, beat a woman's eyes black and blue with your pocket-handkercher! It's downright impossible. Write down 'brutal assault and battery.' 'That's just as your worship plases,' rejoined Dennis; 'but I never tould a lie in my life, only barring when I didn't spake the whole thruth at confusion; and if you'll ask Judy, she'll till you that what I bate her wid was the handkychee; for your honour must know, that I always blows my nose wid my fingers.' This witticism threw his worship into such a fit of laughing, and so completely softened his heart, that he told the sufferer she had better forgive her husband, and settle the matter out of court. This offer was accepted; and, the case being dismissed, I was pushed forward. 'And what's the charge against this here fellow without a coat on his back?' demanded the constable; 'he's a bad un, no doubt—a regular Old Bailey bird!' 'The worst I ever see'd in my beat, your honour,' answered one of my captors; 'he's one of Slip-knot Bob's gang. We knows him as well as our boxes.' 'Write down 'well-known thief,' said the constable to his amanuensis; 'and what was he arter when you grabbed him?' 'Why, we heard a cry of 'stop thief!' and when we runs up, we found he'd prigg'd a gentleman's bandannay; and when we come to seize him, as in duty bound, he offs with his coat, chucks it, bandannay and all, to one of his confederates, and then purtends to get up a mill, to give time to t'other to bolt with the swag.' 'Write down, 'picking pockets—caught in the fact—breaking the king's peace.' That's enough. Hand him into the hole. It's a case for the Mansion House.' This summary mode of dispensing injustice was little to my taste; so I said, 'I assure you, sir, the watchmen are mistaken; I only came to London yesterday, and—' 'Gammon!' replied the constable. 'Upon my word, if you will let some one of them go with me to Mr. Figmat's,

in Lothbury, you will find—' 'Gammon!' again retorted he, whiffing forth a stream of pigtail. 'Sir, if you will not allow me to speak—' 'No more of your gammon,' retorted he again; 'do you think I sits here to do nothing else but listen to your flash? Bring up the next.' Hereupon I was once more transferred to the cellar."

*Semilasso in Africa. Adventures in Algiers and other parts of Africa, By Prince Pückler Muskau, author of the "Tour of a German Prince."* 3 vols. 8vo. London, 1836. Bentley.

PRINCE PÜCKLER is the Dick Jones, and often the Wrench, of Tourists. With a smattering of every thing, he is always chattering about something; lively, bustling, affected, and pleasant. He is so much of a Frenchman, according to our John Bull ideal, that it is difficult to believe him to be a German; and so frequently resembles a valet, that we cannot comprehend him when he appears *en prince*. His pronunciation of *Vaderland* sounds like *Vive la nation! vive la gloire!* and, quite the reverse of the German pig, which spoke the French "*oui, oui*," with a Teutonic accent, he delivers his High Dutch with the tone of a Parisian.

These volumes are extremely amusing; amusing, from the character of their author, and amusing from the scenes he has visited, and the people he has seen and described. Algiers, Bona, Tunis, and interesting excursions into the interior or along the coast, form the subject; and we shall endeavour, in our usual way, to convey to our readers a notion of its mode of treatment,—observing, however, as little order as Prince Pückler himself. We begin with his account of two purchases—a pipe and a bridle.

"This pipe was half of wrought silver, with *paillettes* hanging in chains, and choice sentences from the Koran written on them: for instance, 'If speech is silver, silence is gold;' or, 'Riches do not belong to the miser, but the miser to riches,' &c. The rest of the pipe consists of a sweet-smelling brilliant, with satin and gold embroidery wound round a part of it, a mouth-piece of red coral, and a bowl covered with a thin plate of gold. The student J— declares it to be finer than any thing of the kind he has seen, even in the German universities; 'though,' he adds with pride, 'we had Turkish pipes there of such a length, that, when smoked out of the second-story window, it was necessary to fill them in the street. It is a pity that Hoffman, when he wrote (oh! ungrateful country!) the now forgotten *Klein-zaches*, had not seen my superb pipe!—he would have immortalised it.' I must add a word about the Arabian bridle of gold and variegated silk. It differs from all others in this respect—it has winkers; and, strange though it be, winkers, not before, but behind the eyes. What a subject for reflection to a profound philosopher! If this new bridle were introduced into Europe, how easy to deduce from it the strangest political conclusions!"

One of the country residences near Algiers is thus delineated.

"Beyond the estate of Colonel Bernelle stands just such a villa, which the French have christened *la maison riche*. It is still the property of a Moor; but, since the occupation, it has been let and inhabited by French subaltern officers. The consequences of this change seemed to me really tragic; and the devastation committed in four years scarcely imaginable. The marble fountains, the staircases, inlaid with porcelain, were every where



damaged, and so covered with dirt that one feared to approach them. The orange-trees that grew up in the extensive courts, paved with porcelain, were mostly dead for want of care; and in the aviaries, once filled with parrots and singing-birds, hens and swine now run about. The terraces were partly broken in, and the magnificent covered avenues of vines and jasmines, which formed shady trellis-walks between them, considerably spoiled; while, in some places, plants as strong as trees have been shamefully cut down. The majestic cypresses alone were still standing in uninjured groups, and seemed to look sternly and sorrowfully on the destruction that surrounded them. What might not have been made of this estate, had it fallen into good hands! A hundred times have I imagined our crown prince settled here, who displays so much talent and taste for this southern architecture and ornament—a hundred times have I wished him to see and possess it. In the present state of affairs at Algiers, I doubt whether any one will be able to do any thing of use in that way: even the English who are here seem to change their nature; for the villa of the British consul, although well situated, is as dirty and poor as most of those in the hands of other Europeans. To return, however, to the *maison riche*, which possesses, with architectural beauty and a grand appearance, most enchanting views. With all its galleries, courts, and numerous gardens, it is situated on the declivity of a porous rock, almost entirely overgrown with cactus and serpentine plants, which forms part of the circle of hills that surround the gulf. On both sides the hills around are covered with innumerable villas and rich vegetation: to the left they extend to the projecting light-house of Algiers; to the right they decline near the promontory called Cape Motifu. A great part of the Atlas is still visible over them; and between the garden and the sea is a long green, enlivened by the manoeuvres of the troops,—not, however, too near to be disagreeable, but affording, on the contrary, an interesting sight."

A long and romantic story of Jussuf, a military adventurer and hero, occupies much of the first volume, and is sufficiently marvellous—wonderful, if true! as the Americans say; and, indeed, the biographies of many similar adventurers, given in these pages, would, like the particulars of this renegade Rinaldo, do honour to the most incredible invention. The prince colours them up to the height of—? the Atlas! The sketches of manners are in more likely keeping; but, as many previous writers have treated of them, we will pass to the inland tour, when Zugar, Keruan, and other places rich in Roman and Carthaginian remains, and of much interest to the antiquary, were traversed in a circular jaunt from Tunis. Of the former we hear,—

"From the temple to Zugar the aqueduct is almost always under ground. At the distance of every hundred paces are seen little round open towers, six to eight feet in diameter, projecting like chimneys, and destined, probably, to collect the rain-water. The aqueduct is evidently Carthaginian, and the temple of Roman construction; for I found the same plan and arrangement (only much more in ruins) at Uthina, on the spot where the aqueduct loses itself in the mountain: misled by the many remains of round towers, I was induced at first to take it for the ruins of a city wall. The distant horizon being to-day much clearer than yesterday, I ascended a considerable mountain, at the foot of which the ruins are

situated. My trouble was, however, of little avail, higher peaks rising beyond it: still I discovered, looking towards the desert, a veiled portion of Numidia, in the direction of Thala and Capsa, where Jugurtha had his strongest fortresses, and where Caesar also made a very fatiguing campaign. That part of the country is full of ruins; and I would fain have made an excursion to explore it, if I could have spared the time without sacrificing other and more important plans."

Some inscriptions are briefly mentioned, and one or two copied; but both are without the precision or knowledge so necessary to render them of value. The prince adds:—

"I cannot ascertain what ancient place this may have been, as on the few maps I have with me nothing is marked in this direction, and I have not got here the other works which might afford information. Even Dr. Shaw makes no mention of these ruins, which, from their former splendour, and their proportionably small extent, seem to have been, not a city, but a group of temples, with, probably, the dwellings of the priests lying about them. The Arabs call the place Sidi Massud Ladshehi, after the marabout; for, wherever there are remains of antiquity, you may be almost always sure of finding one."

Keruan has ruins still more striking and important.

"At ten o'clock in the morning I returned the governor's visit. The sheiks, who were come to accompany me, wished me to walk, as the sapatapa himself never rode through the streets of the holy city, except when on a journey: but, as the governor had visited me on horseback, I insisted upon riding as far as his house, agreeing to visit the rest of the city with them on foot; to which proposal no difficulty was made. I found at the caid's some of the heads of the clergy, who appeared pleased with the veneration which I manifested for Mahomet, and with my particular inquiries respecting all that concerned the sanctity of Keruan. On this occasion I learned that Keruan owed the high advantage of being the fourth city in the empire of Islam to the circumstance of containing the sepulchre of the friend and barber of the prophet. This is an important charge among the retainers of an eastern sovereign, because it implies a high degree of confidence. His name was Ubait La, which signifies a man of God; and this worthy is said to have marked out the site of the great mosque erected, at a later period, by Sultan Benirlib. All the ruins in the vicinity were plundered to provide materials for this colossal temple, said to contain no less than five hundred granite columns. Its appearance and extent, surrounded as it is by a wall, give it, notwithstanding its beautiful cupolas and towers, the appearance of a citadel rather than a church. We walked round the whole edifice, accompanied by five or six *grandees* of the town; and, like a fox round a dove-cote, I tried anxiously to peep into the inside. I did not, however, succeed, for every aperture was carefully closed. Before one of the gates lay an old iron cannon; and the spiritual chief of our escort had the face to tell us, very seriously, that Mahomet had been in the habit, during his wars, of sitting on this cannon, to pray to Allah for victory. We afterwards wandered through the whole of the city, which contains about 60,000 inhabitants, and is much cleaner than Tunis."

"The governor assured me, that, to the best of his knowledge, I was only the fourth Christian traveller that had visited the place;

and to no one had it been hitherto permitted to remain so long, or to examine the city in such detail. This, it appears, was conceded on the particular recommendation of his highness the bey, who had sent a mamaluk express to the caid for that purpose, a few days before my arrival,—a piece of courtesy which I have every reason to acknowledge with all possible gratitude. All my wishes on this point being now fulfilled, with the exception of a visit to the interior of the temple, which was evidently impracticable, I did what I could to repair this deficiency; and sent, in my stead, my valet Mustapha, who was, fortunately, a true believer, and brought me the following report of the marvels of the place. But, first, I must begin by describing the narrator himself. He is a good-natured young fellow, about eighteen years old, consequently of very little experience, and in that happy age, and yet happier disposition, when every illusion is readily taken for truth, and the marvellous is just what is most willingly believed: he is, moreover, a good Mussulman, and a well-meaning creature, without distinguishing himself by any exaggerated power of intellect. I had given him the good advice to insinuate himself into the favour of the *lukill* who accompanied him, by the present of a few piasters; this, as we shall see, did not fail to produce its due effect. I had commissioned him to count the granite columns and the steps in the tower, and to pay particular attention to every thing that occurred,—commissions which his superstition prevented him from executing in a satisfactory manner. According to his report, he was first conducted through two large folding-doors into an enormous hall, filled partly with rows of columns, and partly with groups of two, three, or four of them, and paved with polished marble. Mustapha endeavoured to count the columns; but, as the *lukill* had before told him would be the case, when he got beyond a hundred he became giddy, and a higher power prevented him from seeing distinctly, so that every thing began to turn before his eyes. As soon as he gave up his design, this unnatural condition ceased. He then beheld, at a great elevation on the wall, the wooden coffin of the negro saint, Sidi Nablal, who died the death of a martyr, while fighting in the suite of Mahomet, and performing great achievements. At this grave there appears every Friday, early in the morning, wrapped up in a long white *talar*, another saint, Sidi Achmet Ochhodder (Lord Achmet the Green), who offers up his prayers before other men are awake. The *lukill* had respectfully contemplated him more than once in the early dusk of the morning, and had seen him appear and disappear, without announcing his presence by any kind of sound. So far all had been matter of wonder and admiration for Mustapha; but now came a more severe trial. There are three magic columns of dark granite, placed in a corner, and standing before a small door. Whoever is in favour with the prophet passes easily through to open the door, even though he were of the thickness of an elephant; but the slenderest child is caught fast between them, if not firm in its faith to Islam, or if Mahomet bears it a spite on any other ground. Many here turn back, and leave the menacing columns untouched: but whoever wishes to go further, and see the objects of chief veneration, must submit to the ordeal, in which, according to the *lukill's* account, many a sinner is said to have lost his life; and which, only a few weeks ago, had so far proved fatal to a young man that he

was dreadfully squeezed, and was not able to get free again till he had made a multitude of vows of pious largesse and reformation. But he who passes safely through, independently of being invigorated for life by the sight of the relics, acquires a degree of religious dignity, something like that of the pilgrims to Mecca. My first *hamba*, a wild fellow and a bit of a scapegrace, accompanied Mustapha; and, though he might be a firm believer, could have little confidence in his own purity. This man was so terrified by the lukill's account that he began to weep, and to utter every imaginable form of prayer, before he ventured to comply with the invitation boldly to attempt the passage: nor did he get through without remaining for a while in great anguish, jammed in between the pillars; and, according to his own account, it was not without suffering severe pain that he made good his passage. Mustapha went to work with no less dread, but found the execution of his design a much easier matter: this may have been the effect of a clear conscience, or because his douceur to the lukill was three times as large as that of the *hamba*. The visitors were then conducted into the holy of holies, a splendidly ornamented cabinet, in which are preserved six metal skull-caps, formed like helmets, worn formerly by six disciples of the prophet: also, a kind of small sword, which Sidi Abdel Kader, on his first arrival at Keruan, stretched out towards heaven, commanding the sea, which at that time was close to the city, instantly to withdraw, and no longer to incommode the holy city with its briny presence; whereupon fertile meadows, covered with rich harvests, immediately occupied the place of the water. Here, also, was shewn the wooden toy-sword of Sidi Akbar, the conqueror of Barbary, with which he slew more foes than the best Damascene blade had ever done before,—besides various other wonders of the same kind. The cabinet suffered a serious loss some years ago, when the five steel cuirasses of the disciples were taken away by his highness the bey, to send them to Constantinople as a present to the sultan. The pious wanderers next entered a spacious court, surrounded by arcades, reposing on beautiful double columns. In the centre of the court was a large cistern inclosed in marble, with six smaller ones forming a circle around it. They next arrived in a tolerable hall, somewhat smaller than the first, and then proceeded through a long double gallery to the loftiest tower, from which the *medecin* calls the faithful to prayer. The lukill warned them, as they ascended, to beware of any attempt like that in the hall; for a man who, some years ago, had attempted to count the steps, had, on reaching the last, fallen down dead, as though he had been struck by lightning. You may imagine that Mustapha had no inclination wantonly to provoke a premature death. The tower seemed to him to be much higher than it had appeared when seen from without; and he felt much fatigued on reaching the top, whence he enjoyed a most magnificent prospect over the various courts, wells, galleries, and columns of the mosque, which looked like a little town in itself. He descended quite proudly, and was received by my whole Mussulmanish suite with perfect veneration, on account of his having so easily and happily passed through the dangerous columns. '*E un santo adesso*,' said my dragoman in his broken *Lingua Franca* (he had shrunk from the ordeal of the columns), '*e mio paura da lui*.' Keruan is supposed to be the ancient *Vicus Augusti*; but there are no ruins to be

found, with the exception of an old cistern, situated not far from the mausoleum of the thrice-blessed barber. In the time of the Arabs, it was long the metropolis of their African empire, and the seat of the sciences; at present it is famous only for its sanctity and its shoemakers, the morocco boots made here being considered the best in Barbary. Nothing can be more naked and lifeless than the environs of this town, as far as the eye can reach; and it is difficult to conceive that this province can ever have been so fertile and flourishing as it is represented to us by ancient writers, and as it is proved to have been by the remains of so many large cities found in every direction."

We shall reserve a few further extracts for a future notice.

*A Memoir of the Life and Works of Wm. Wyon, Esq. A.R.A., Chief Engraver of the Royal Mint.* By Nicholas Carlisle, Esq., Sec. S.A. For private circulation. Pp. 213.

IT may seem a novel mode of reviewing, to begin at the end, but such shall be our plan in this instance. In the penultimate page of his work, Mr. Carlisle disarms criticism by the following observation:—"How fearfully do I pause before I venture to give even private circulation to a tribute so imperfect as this! But candour and generosity will easily distinguish between the sterling substance of merit and the humble attempt of a friend, if it fail in the delineation. Yet I may venture to anticipate, that neither the fame nor the fortune of Mr. Wyon—honoured by all the best artists for his abilities, and by the good for his integrity—will suffer the smallest injury or animadversion for this inelegant, though well-intended, Narrative."

Having, so far, done with the end, we must now try back and consider the earlier parts; and we feel bound to award the meed of praise to the work, whether we consider it as an amiable tribute of friendship to high talent and genius, or as a work of information on British coinage. It is partly original and partly compiled, and consists of three divisions—the Introduction, the Life of Mr. Wyon, and a Catalogue Raisonné of his numismatic and medallion productions. The Introduction, occupying twenty-eight pages, contains a concise, but well-drawn, history of British coinage, from the reign of Henry I., and of the moneyers or artists who excelled in that line, commencing the history thus:—"So early as the reign of King Henry the First, and about the year 1125, the English goldsmiths seem to have been eminent for the excellence of their workmanship, and to have been sometimes invited to practise their art in foreign courts. Anketil, who was afterwards a monk in the Abbey of St. Alban, and made the shrine there, resided during seven years in Denmark, by the command, and at the request, of the reigning monarch. Whilst he continued there, he was employed in a variety of goldsmiths' work, and was appointed the keeper of the Royal Mint, and chief moneyer."

The author then notices "Philip Aymary, a native of Tours," as the first foreign artist introduced into the Mint, in the year 1180; William de Turnemire, of Marseilles, in 1279; from that time a long hiatus appears in the artists, as the next mentioned is Walter Basbee, assay master to Goldsmiths' Hall, sent by James the First to the Emperor of Russia, about 1608, to make "a standard of gold and silver in his mint equivalent to that of the Tower of London, a strong fact to shew the high estimation in which that standard was holden upon the

continent;" Nicholas Briot, in 1628; Peter Blondeau, sent for to Paris by the Council of State and Commons, in 1649; our countryman, Thomas Simon, 1649; John Roetier, 1661; and John Croker, in the reign of Queen Anne.

Mr. Carlisle makes the following observations on one of the finest early English coins and the alchymic notions of our ancestors respecting it:

"The gold coins of Edward the Third, at this period [1343], seemed [seem?] to have derived their name (*nobles*) from the noble nature of the metal, of which they were composed."

It is, indeed, extraordinary, that they were not rather enticed, from the new and singular type of a ship, with which they were impressed, and thus remarkably distinguished from every other coin at that time existing. This could have been adopted only for the purpose of commemorating some great and well-known event, which Mr. Ruding conceives to have been the signal victory which King Edward obtained over the French fleet off Sluys, on Midsummer-day, in the year 1340, when two French admirals and about 30,000 men were slain, and above 230 of their large ships were taken, with but inconsiderable loss on the part of the English: and it seems highly probable that this mighty victory suggested to Edward an idea of his superiority over every other maritime power, and that these coins were struck for the purpose, as Selden supposes, of recording his claim to the sovereignty of the seas, which was supported by a navy of eleven hundred ships. An old versifier sings,—

"For four things our noble sheweth to me,  
King, ship, and sword, and power of the sea."

These coins were so beautiful, that various fabulous reports were framed respecting the material of which they were formed. Such reports continued in force even in the time of Camden, who says, "our alchymists do affirm (as an unwritten verity), that the gold was made by projection or multiplication, alchymical of Raymond Lully, in the Tower of London, who would prove it as alchymically, beside the tradition of the Rabbis in that faculty, by the inscription; for, as upon one side there is the king's image in a ship, to notify that he was lord of the seas, with his titles, so upon the reverse, a cross fleury with lions, inscribed, *Jesus autem transiens per medium eorum ibat* (Luke, chap. iv. v. 30), which they profoundly expound, as Jesus passed invisible, and in so secret a manner by the midst of the Pharisees, so that gold was made by invisible and secret art amidst the ignorant. But others say, that the text was the only amulet used in that credulous age to escape dangers in battle! It appears, from a passage in a contemporary author, that these words were considered not only as a preservative from the perils of war, but supposed also to answer a humbler purpose, that of defending men from the peril of thieves; and, surely, if they were allowed to possess that power, a more proper inscription for a coin could not have been easily chosen. \* \* \*

"It is highly honourable to King Charles the First, that, in all his difficulties, he never debased his coins. Had he done so, the Parliament would not have failed to state the existence of such money, in their Ordinance of the 6th of September, 1647. But he preserved the standard inviolate, even when, from necessity, the workmanship of some of his coins was so rude as to justify the suspicion that the dies were sunk by a common blacksmith."

Mr. Wyon's great-grandfather was a native of Cologne, in Germany, a silver-chaser, and was brought from Hanover to England in the suite of George the First; his descendants seem

all to have followed the profession of medallists. The subject of this memoir was apprenticed, in 1809, to his father, at the age of 14: his first production, of consequence, was a head of Hercules, about the year 1811. In 1813, he received the large gold medal, of the Society of Arts, for his head of Ceres; and, in the same year, he executed a groupe of figures, intended as a naval prize medal, for which the Society of Arts again awarded him their large gold medal, on which Mr. Carlisle observes:—

"Here we see a youth of eighteen, unaided but by natural genius, breaking through all the impediments of his difficult art, and claiming and receiving the highest rewards, such as might only be conferred upon matured excellence!"

The author follows his friend through his career of talent and excellence to the present time; but we have not space to notice more of it than that Mr. Wyon was appointed second engraver to the Mint in 1816, and chief engraver in 1823; and that, in May 1834, he delivered a lecture at the Society of Arts, on Coins and Medals; of which Mr. Carlisle has given an analysis; a good deal of it, by the way, a repetition of the information given on the subject in the introduction.

The book concludes with a long descriptive list of Mr. Wyon's works in coins, medals, and seals.

*The Exposition of the Vedanta Philosophy, by H. T. Colebrooke, Esq., vindicated.* By Sir Graves C. Haughton, Knt. K.H. M.A. F.R.S. &c.

SIR GRAVES C. HAUGHTON affirms, against Col. Kennedy, that Mr. Colebrooke considered the Hindoos had a word to express matter, in the Sanscrit language; and his own conviction is consonant with this. The question is subtle enough, and Sir Graves quotes Rammohun Roy as supporting the same proposition from the Vedas. Let us premise for the unlearned, as Sir Graves does not write for them, that Vedanta means the object or aim of the Vedas.

Our own humble opinion (see *Lit. Gaz.* No. 1021, p. 514) on this subject is, we are glad to find, supported by so high an authority as Sir G. C. Haughton. In fact, we esteem it difficult or impossible to conceive, as did the early Eastern philosophers, that Deity is the one universal principle, including all else of existence as portions of itself, without coming, in the course of carrying out this principle, to the very conclusion of the Hindoo system aforesaid: that is, that Deity, itself a perfect repose, possesses a consciousness of all actuality in the shape of impression—diversifying it (Deity) "into an infinite but fallacious individuality." "Such," observes Sir Graves, "is the ancient doctrine." How different is this from that which it has been represented by modern writers, when the Deity is summarily described as the cause of all things, and all appearances to be mere juggle and illusion!

Col. Kennedy considers *maya* a simple illusion; Sir Graves calls it that self-induced hypostasis of the Deity by which he presents to himself the whole of animate and inanimate nature. Dr. J. Taylor affirms *maya* to exist as motion or energy, not as being; that it is neither true nor false: not true, because it has no essence; and not false, because it exists as the power of the universal Being. Is not *maya*, then, we would submit, Deity in one process of its action or operation? Well may Sir Graves say, that such a system, even if comprehensible, cannot be represented by language, but is left to be inferred by the mind from the principles

laid down. For ourselves, so soon as we find settled what action or operation is as regards matter, so soon shall we hope to see the same question determined with regard to spirit.

It is fair to confess that we have not had Col. Kennedy's argument; but even the difficulty of the controversy may be guessed, by the unlearned in Sanscrit, from the appendix; added, as Sir G. Haughton states, with the especial view of elucidating the question of cause and effect, as well as of demonstrating the absurdity of the celebrated ancient maxim, *ex nihilo nihil fit*.

*Cosmo de Medici; a Historical Tragedy.* By R. H. Horne, author of "The Exposition of the False Medium," &c. 8vo. pp. 118. London, 1837. Templeman.

IN this drama considerable powers are displayed; the author aiming not so much, however, at poetry and imagination, as at "action vividly addressed to sensation," which he considers to be all "that at present is requisite for the English stage." It must be confessed that this is nearly the truth; but the consequence is, that it links the dramatist to an inferior standard. He does not write for the highest capabilities of the stage, but for the stage as lowered by melo-drama and show. Effects are his ambition; effects, which at best are but secondary adjuncts to dramatic excellence, and which, if solely relied on, form only a succession of striking tricks. Where, in the mean time, are the essence and soul of high-styled Tragedy? Where is the Muse, the neglected and forgotten Melpomene? The former are in *tableaux*, and the latter lies with the dead bards of elder times.

Yet, though we make these remarks on Mr. Horne's abstract principle, we are not disposed to deny that he frequently evinces much force in his style and dialogue, blemished by occasional incongruities, and even rendered ludicrous by ill-timed attempts at lofty language. Thus, *Cosmo* speaks of his son Garcia in a manner which reminds us of "Tom Thumb":—

"*Delonzo.* Sir, shall we know your thoughts?  
*Cosmo.* Nor friars nor coarsers are for him fit peers.  
Now, gentlemen, I'll tell you candidly:  
Without the least false harmony of disguise,  
Or any counter-thought beneath my words,  
Upon my soul I know not what to think!"

But let us, in justice, add that, without attempting prolonged poetical ornament, Mr. Horne often exhibits poetical thoughts; and we might quote a hundred passages, from a line to two lines in length, which would illustrate this feature. Their want of connexion, however, would be felt; and we must, therefore, rather rest with commending *Cosmo de Medici* as a fatal tragic story relating to the family of the first Grand-duke of Tuscany.

*Lockhart's Life of Scott.*  
[Second notice.]

TO most of our readers in England and Scotland, this review will be a pass-over; for we daresay, the charming volume has by this time been pursued with pleasure by that literature-loving majority. But they will excuse the room it occupies; for, though a repetition for them, they may think what a treat even these small portions will be to distant friends—to our own countrymen scattered over the Indies, east and west, and other colonies on the face of the globe, and to the admirers of the wizard Scott, throughout the continent of Europe. Wheresoever the *Literary Gazette* goes into these quarters—and where does it not go?—this page will be most welcome; and the welcome, the less we say of ourselves and the more of

the author. A letter, speaking of the earliest strong manifestations of Scott's predilection for letters, is of high interest.

"Mrs. Cockburn, mentioned by him in his memoir as the authoress of the modern 'Flowers of the Forest,' born a Rutherford, of Fairnlie, in Selkirkshire, was distantly related to the poet's mother, with whom she had through life been in habits of intimate friendship. This accomplished woman was staying at Ravelstone, in the vicinity of Edinburgh, a seat of the Keiths of Dunnotar, nearly related to Mrs. Scott, and to herself. With some of that family she spent an evening in George's Square. She chanced to be writing next day to Dr. Douglas, the well-known and much-respected minister of her native parish, Galashiels; and her letter, of which the doctor's son has kindly given me a copy, contains the following passage:—

"Edinburgh, Saturday night, 15th of the gloomy month when the people of England hang and drown themselves.

"\* \* \* I last night supped in Mr. Walter Scott's. He has the most extraordinary genius of a boy I ever saw. He was reading a poem to his mother when I went in. I made him read on; it was the description of a shipwreck. His passion rose with the storm. He lifted his eyes and hands. 'There's the mast gone,' says he; 'crash it goes!—they will all perish!' After his agitation, he turns to me. 'That is too melancholy,' says he; 'I had better read you something more amusing.' I preferred a little chat, and asked his opinion of Milton and other books he was reading, which he gave me wonderfully. One of his observations was, 'How strange it is that Adam, just new come into the world, should know every thing—that must be the poet's fancy,' says he. But when he was told he was created perfect by God, he instantly yielded. When taken to bed last night, he told his aunt he liked that lady. 'What lady?' says she. 'Why, Mrs. Cockburn; for I think she is a virtuous, like myself.' 'Dear Walter,' says aunt Jenny, 'what is a virtuous?' 'Don't ye know? Why, it's one who wishes and will know every thing.' Now, sir, you will think this a very silly story. Pray, what age do you suppose this boy to be? Name it now, before I tell you. Why, twelve or fourteen. No such thing; he is not quite six years old.\* He has a lame leg, for which he was a year at Bath, and has acquired the perfect English accent, which he has not lost since he came, and he reads like a Garrick. You will allow this an uncommon exotic. Some particulars in Mrs. Cockburn's account appear considerably at variance with what Sir Walter has told us respecting his own boyish proficiency."

It is a remarkable thing, that, with this precocity, and the nourishment of his tastes by constant habits, that so long a period should have elapsed before Scott appeared as a public writer. Born in 1771, his first printed appearance was the translation of the German ballad of "Lenore," in 1796. Was he not, during the period, amassing those treasures which he afterwards poured out with such prolific activity; and which, being drained, rendered his later productions of an inferior quality—the same speed, but not the same abundance? Pursuing this subject, we are told—

"Although the *Ashestiel* Memoir mentions so very lightly his boyish addiction to verse, and the rebuke which his vein received from the apothecary's blue-buskin wife, as having

\* He was, in fact, six years and three months old before this letter was written.



been followed by similar treatment on the part of others, I am inclined to believe that, while thus devoting, along with his young friend, the stores of Italian romance, he essayed, from time to time, to weave some of their materials into rhyme;—nay, that he must have made at least one rather serious effort of this kind as early as the date of these rambles to the Salisbury Crags. I have found among his mother's papers a copy of verses headed, 'Lines to Mr. Walter Scott, on reading his poem of Guiscard and Matilda, inscribed to Miss Keith of Ravelston.' There is no date; but I conceive the lines bear internal evidence of having been written when he was very young,—not, I should suppose, above fourteen or fifteen at most. I think it also certain that the writer was a woman; and have almost as little doubt that they came from the pen of his old admirer, Mrs. Cockburn. They are as follows:—

'If such the accents of thy early youth,  
When playful fancy holds the place of truth;  
If so divinely sweet thy numbers flow,  
And thy young heart melts with such tender wo;  
What praise, what admiration shall be thine,  
When sense mature with science shall combine  
To raise thy genius and thy taste refine!  
Go on, dear youth, the glorious path pursue  
Which bounteous Nature kindly smooths for you;  
Go, bid the seeds her hand hath sown arise,  
By timely culture, to their native skies;  
Go, and employ the poet's heavenly art,  
Not merely to delight, but mend the heart.  
Than other poets happier may'st thou prove,  
More blest in friendship, fortunate in love;  
Whilst Fame, who longs to make true merit known,  
Impatient waits to claim thee as her own.  
Scorning the yoke of prejudice and pride,  
Thy tender mind let truth and reason guide;  
Let meek humility thy steps attend,  
And firm integrity, youth's surest friend.  
So peace and honour all thy hours shall bless,  
And conscious rectitude each joy increase;  
A nobler meed be thine than empty praise—  
Heaven shall approve thy life, and Keith thy lays."

And, again,—“It is affirmed by a preceding biographer, on the authority of one of these brother apprentices, that, about this period, Scott shewed him a MS. poem, on the ‘Conquest of Granada,’ in four books, each amounting to about 400 lines, which, soon after it was finished, he committed to the flames. As he states, in his ‘Essay on the Imitation of Popular Poetry,’ that, for ten years previous to 1796, when his first translation from the German was executed, he had written no verses, “except an occasional sonnet to his mistress’s eyebrow.” I presume this ‘Conquest of Granada,’ the fruit of his study of the *Guerres Civiles*, must be assigned to the summer of 1786; or, making allowance for trivial inaccuracy, to the next year at latest. It is probably composed in imitation of Meikle’s ‘Lusiad;’ at all events, we have a very distinct statement, that he made no attempts in the manner of the old minstrels, early as his admiration for them had been, until the period of his acquaintance with Bürger. Thus, with him, as with most others, genius had hazarded many a random effort ere it discovered the true key-note. Long had

‘Amid the strings his fingers stray’d,  
And an uncertain warbling made,’

before ‘the measure wild’ was caught, and

‘In varying cadence, soft or strong,  
He swept the sounding chords along.”

So much for his earlier poetical habits; but there is a still greater charm in this biography, from its describing his various movements in youth, by which he acquired his knowledge of scenes and characters that are now immortal in his novels. The traces of these originals are delightful; and those frequent country excursions (noticed in our last) were certainly most favourable for the supply of his fancy with food, and his mind for observation.

His own young character appears to have been an uncommon mixture of enthusiasm and prudence: the former, perhaps, constitutional; the latter, perhaps, national. “I find,” says Mr. Lockhart, “in another letter of this collection, and it is among the first of the series, the following passage: ‘Your Quixotism, dear Walter, was highly characteristic. From the description of the blooming fair, as she appeared when she lowered her *manicau vert*, I am hopeful you have not dropt the acquaintance. At least, I am certain some of our more rakish friends would have been glad enough of such an introduction.’ This hint I cannot help connecting with the first scene of the Lady Green Mantle in ‘Redgauntlet;’ but, indeed, I could easily trace many more coincidences between these letters and that novel: though, at the same time, I have no sort of doubt that William Clerk was, in the main, Darsie Latimer, while Scott himself unquestionably sat for his own picture in young Alan Fairford. The allusion to ‘our more rakish friends’ is in keeping with the whole strain of this juvenile correspondence. Throughout there occurs no coarse, or even jocular suggestion, as to the conduct of Scott in that particular as to which most youths of his then age are so apt to lay up stores of self-reproach. In this season of hot and impetuous blood he may not have escaped quite blameless, but I have the concurrent testimony of all the most intimate among his surviving associates, that he was remarkably free from such indiscretions; that, while his high sense of honour shielded him from the remotest dream of tampering with female innocence, he had an instinctive delicacy about him which made him recoil with utter disgust from low and vulgar debaucheries. His friends, I have heard more than one of them confess, used often to rally him on the coldness of his nature. By degrees they discovered that he had, from almost the dawn of the passions, cherished a secret attachment, which continued, through all the most perilous stage of life, to act as a romantic charm in safeguard of virtue. This (however he may have disguised the story, by mixing it up with the Quixotic adventure of the damsel in the green mantle)—this was the early and innocent affection to which we owe the tenderest pages, not only of ‘Redgauntlet,’ but of the ‘Lay of the Last Minstrel,’ and of ‘Rokeby.’ In all of these works the heroine has certain distinctive features, drawn from one and the same haunting dream of his m. nly adolescence.”

The lady of this his first love married another; and his biographer observes—

“I have neither the power nor the wish to give in detail the sequel of this story. It is sufficient to say, that after he had through several long years nourished the dream of an ultimate union with this lady, his hopes terminated in her being married to a gentleman of the highest character, to whom some affectionate allusions occur in one of the greatest of his works, and who lived to act the part of a most generous friend to his early rival throughout the anxieties and distresses of 1826 and 1827. I have said enough for my purpose—which was only to render intelligible a few allusions in the letters which I shall by and by have to introduce; but I may add, that I have no doubt this unfortunate passion, besides one good effect already adverted to, had a powerful influence in nerving Scott’s mind for the sedulous diligence with which he pursued his proper legal studies, as described in his Memoir, during the two or three years that preceded his call to the bar.”

His subsequent meeting with Miss Carpenter at Gilsland, and his union with her in 1797, leads to the insertion of some very characteristic correspondence; and the lady’s letters are, truly, very graceful and captivating. But we must leave them, and the volume, now, with two brief extracts.

“He (Sir Walter, says Mr. L.) could, when I first knew him, swallow a great quantity of wine without being at all visibly disordered by it: but nothing short of some very particular occasion could ever induce him to put this strength of head to a trial: and I have heard him many times utter words which no one in the days of his youthful temptation can be the worse for remembering,—‘*Depend upon it, of all vices drinking is the most incompatible with greatness.*’”

Trait of the Northumberland drovers, in a letter of Scott’s (1792):—

“The inhabitants of this country speak an odd dialect of the Saxon, approaching nearly that of Chaucer, and have retained some customs peculiar to themselves. They are the descendants of the ancient Danes, chased into the fastnesses of Northumberland by the severity of William the Conqueror. Their ignorance is surprising to a Scotchman. It is common for the traders in cattle, which business is carried on to a great extent, to carry all letters received in course of trade to the parish church, where the clerk reads them aloud after service, and answers them according to circumstances.” Intellect has marched into the north since then.

#### Ward’s Human Life, &c. (Concluding notice.)

THE varieties of Mr. Ward’s illustrations of human life are, like the fruits in a macedoine, of so many different kinds, that we must, at this rather busy period of the year, be content with picking out only a very few more of them, and recommending the jelly entire to our readers. The annexed extract from “Atticus” appears to be worthy of our selection:—

“What may be a duty in youth or middle age would be inconsistent when past the meridian. Even to the veteran, I would not say that all worldly uses were flat and unprofitable. But it is inconceivable how poor and shapeless the objects most dazzling to the glittering throng appear to him who is going to where he knows they will all sink to nothing, or worse than nothing. Could men carry their pomp and power with them, or women their beauty, when they quit the world, it would be different; but, as pomp and power, and beauty too, are doomed irrevocably to be ‘food for worms,’ to lie in cold obstruction, and to rot, I often think, when I see them in their very zenith, how soon they must be stripped of all that they pride themselves upon here, and how soon the millions they have despised may be more than their equals elsewhere.” Our friend here paused again for some minutes; and, as I was sure he was sincere, I esteemed him more than ever. I felt, even, almost as grave as himself, and waited for him to go on. He therefore rather surprised me by a change of tone, when he laughingly wound up by saying,—“No, no! there are no orators, aristocrats, or exclusives in heaven, whatever they may think of it.” “All this is incontestable,” said I; “but do you mean that, because all must quit the world, we are not to attend to its interests while in it?” “Clearly not,” he replied; “but the difficulty is to distinguish between the world’s interests and our own. A grandiloquent minister, finding his grandeur in a little danger, cries out, ‘Vain

pomp and glory of the world, I hate you!" He assures his audience that he took office against his will, knowing he was too old for it; but he must not abandon the king. He therefore remains a little longer; that is, as long as he can. Another grandee has also a duty to perform (of course, to the country), and cannot refuse to save that country by refusing to coalesce with the party that is uppermost. A third suddenly discovers that he has been in error all his life, but has become open to conviction: that is, he sacrifices all the principles for which he had fought for years when his friends were in power; but, in consequence of this conviction, sides against them, now they are out. These are admirable examples; but, my good friend, would you have me one of these?"

This portion of the publication, which is not very susceptible of being fairly appreciated without perusal from beginning to end, has also a just and glowing eulogy on Shakespeare.

"Who so inexhaustible in his varieties? who so profound in his knowledge—his knowledge of all the hidden springs of the heart, and of the causes or effects of human events? What feeling is there undescribed? What motive unexplored? What passion not developed? What duty not enforced? Ambition, avarice, prodigality, revenge, patriotism, filial piety, conjugal love! All the romance and witcheries of imagination! All the home-felt realities of life! If we look for pathos, who so pathetic? for wit, who so witty? for humour, who so humorous? In epic, beyond all, heroic! In tenderness, beyond all, sweet! Indeed (to use his own words),

'Sweet as summer.'

In description, ever appropriate, he is gorgeous, and sublime, or gentle and soothing, as the subject requires; whether Cleopatra sail down the Cydnus, or 'towers topple on their warders' heads.' In short, in such immeasurable varieties of knowledge and imagery, who could ever find an end? or, closing the book, say he had finished? No! a thousand lives might pass, and the lessons not be terminated."

In "Fielding," after the first desultory part, the author goes more into narrative and adventure. The happy loves of Eltheredge, and the rambles of his hero, with the story of a remarkable companion named Willoughby, whom he encounters, complete the work, to which (as we have said) we can afford no further space than the following brief examples.

"Dermot, for the first time, met Judy at a fair; treated her; danced with her; and the next day, having got her consent, went to the priest. Father Murphy did not approve of love at first sight,—Dermot differed. 'Praise your reverence,' said he, 'I am bound to you for your advice, but I hope you will excuse me for differing, and thinking my scheme better than yours.' 'Why?' said the father. 'For this reason,' replied Dermot; 'love, at first sight, sparkles and burns like whisky; but an old engagement is like dead small bare.' We have said, that as love may come, so it may go, we scarce know why in either case; but when it does go, care should be taken to make all decent in the separation; so that, though there may be no love remaining, there shall be a great deal of esteem. The situation is not quite so pleasant, but it is better than the *célar* of a rupture. However, I cannot fail to recollect here the pathetic lamentation of a lively French marquis, who had loved his mistress to distraction, but somehow or another cooled off. Calling upon him one day, I asked him how his suite

to Madame de F. went on. 'Oh! mon ami,' he replied, 'nous sommes dans toutes les horreurs de l'amitié!' 'I suppose,' said I, 'this friendship will soon turn to hate, as love itself very often does.' 'Vous vous trompez,' said he; 'I did not love her enough to hate her.' This reply is so full of meaning, and lets in so much light upon this intricate subject, that I recommend it to the notice and study of all my brother-philosophers."

Our author's opinion of Hampden will startle many a patriot and liberal.

"I willingly went a few miles out of my way to see Chalfont and Hampden, where Milton sang and Hampden plotted. The earliest and sweetest notes of the poet were breathed at the first, and the treasons of the rebel concocted at the last. In these times how many will start, how many will smile, at the appellation I have bestowed on the canonised martyr of liberty. 'Oh! that word of fear!' how many knaves has it not profited! how many fools not beguiled! That Hampden of Hampden did essential service to liberty when liberty was in danger, no one can deny; and, had he known where to stop, it would be difficult to praise or honour him enough. But, like almost all the great actors of the world, who have, perhaps, been sincere in their outset, he made patriotism only a stepping-stone to ambition; that besetting sin by which, as Wolsey too late found out, 'the angels fell.' Was Hampden, then, the seat of happiness, when thus the seat of treason? for it was here, as the tradition is, that, with his fellow-conspirators, he settled those plans which drenched his country in misery, although the causes of discontent were fast subsiding. Could, or can, traitors then be happy? was the question raised by my visit to this abode."

We conclude with a passage in a still stronger tone of conservatism.

"I left Oxford in a pensive, or, rather, melancholy mood. I stopped often to look back upon its towers, its battlements and spires, the growth of ages, and, for all that time, the parent of those who have most enlightened, polished, or protected the land. This, indubitably, was not the cause of my melancholy; but to think how soon Oxford may be overthrown, and her foundations destroyed, under pretence of the public good—how soon she may become a prey to the sinister designs of knaves, with economy in their mouths, and pillage in their hearts, distressed me. The all-destroying fiend of mischief and robbery, under the mask of reformation, which is too irksome for him to wear, even for the few minutes necessary to his designs, has already whetted his beak and sharpened his talons, which, if Providence doth not fight for us, will, in the end, destroy these once happy seats. I say, unless Providence fight for us; because it should seem we dare not fight for ourselves, but are left to the will of the spoiler. Oxford, therefore, will and must sink in the general wreck, and her magnificent institutions and august associations will be talked of as things that have been."

We must refrain from the characters drawn in the latter portion of the work; and merely state, that those who prefer story to reflection will be more gratified with this than with the preceding moiety of Mr. Ward's literary performance.

*Family Poetry: chiefly Devotional.* By the Editor of "Family Worship." "The Sacred Harp," &c. Pp. 236. London, 1836. Tilt.

VERY few would be led to suppose that this

work by the editor above named, was a literary robbery—a collection of poems, and some of them stolen from works published within the last twelve months. But this is not all: what was before sense, the editor has rendered nonsense. For instance, The "Evening Hymn," which will be found in Mr. Miller's "Day in the Woods," is thus given in the present selection:

"Until eternity is gained  
That bound the sea without a shore;  
That without time for ever reigned,  
And will when time's no more."

The second line will be found to read in Mr. Miller's work thus:

"That boundless sea without a shore."

How many more such errors there may be we know not. The editor has also the bravery to state, that, "should this little work receive the approbation of the public, it is the intention of the publisher to bring out a similar volume next year." That is, should not some author or publisher put a stop to this practice, he will continue to plunder new works, and bring them forth, while purchasers will countenance the piracy. We trust that every honest publisher will set his face against such proceedings.

*Spain.* By H. D. Inglis. 2 vols. Second Edition. London, 1837. Whittaker and Co.

NOTWITHSTANDING all that has been written about Spain since poor Inglis's first edition appeared, it must still remain a standard book on the subject. An introductory chapter on the present (ever changeable?) state of the country, is ably written: we cannot, however, but look for such revolutions, both in the seat of war, and the seat of government, as to render all speculation idleness.

*Concealment; a Novel.* 3 vols. R. Bentley. A STORY rather belonging to the school which has been followed, if not superseded, by higher efforts in this walk of literature. The circulating library readers, however, may find its incidents, loves, disappointments, misfortunes, and happy events, quite to their taste.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

*Britannia; or the Moral Chains of Seamen stated and enforced. An Essay in Three Parts,* by the Rev. J. Harris, author of "Mammoth," &c. 8vo. Pp. 195. (London, Ward and Co.)—A premium of 50*l.* having been offered for the best essay on this subject, Mr. Harris has carried off the prize. The affair belongs to the British and Foreign Sailors' Society, whose views and opinions the author appears to have enforced with great ability.

*Thoughts in Times Past tested by Subsequent Events,* by the Duke of Newcastle. Pp. 164. (London, Boone).—A highly conservative view of national affairs, and taken by one whose eminent rank has afforded him great opportunities for observation. As politics, however, are better discussed in other pages than ours, we shall be content to pay our tribute of admiration to the good sense, talent, and obvious sincerity, which pervade these pages.

*A Familiar Account of Trees,* &c. Pp. 117. (London, G. East).—A pretty little book, in which many interesting anecdotes, &c. relating to trees, are related in a manner well calculated to excite the attention and improve the mind of youth.

*Tales of the Martyrs, &c.* 18mo. Pp. 223. (London, Deane and Munday).—The compiler of these melancholy episodes from church history, thinks the subject too much neglected. At all events, they are sad stories, and teach us how cruel human nature must be when it can commit such atrocities in the name of a religion of peace and mercy.

*The Pocket Guide to Commercial Book-keeping,* &c. by R. Wallace, A.M. Pp. 129. (Glasgow, M'Phun; London, Cotes).—A very useful little work for mercantile people.

*Sermons for Children,* by M. E. Bourlier. Pp. 55. (London, Hatchard and Son).—Such publications seem to us to spring out of odd notions; though, we doubt not, extremely well meaning. To simplify the moral lessons of the church, and adapt them to the capacities of children, is praiseworthy; but sermons (short as they are) are not the fittest vehicles for such instruction.

*Encyclopædia Britannica, Vol. XII., Part 2.* (Edinburgh, A. and C. Black; London, Simpkin, Marshall,



and Co.; Whittaker and Co.; Hamilton, Adams, and Co.; Dublin, Cumming.)—Professor Napier proceeds nobly with his seventh edition, improving with every step he advances. This Part concludes the important subject of Mechanics; and the paper on medals (we wish our illustration of the art of engraving them had been in time for it) Medical Jurisprudence, Medicine, Metaphysics, and Meteorology, are all excellent of their kind.

The *Student's Cabinet Library*, Nos. XXI., XXII. (Edinburgh, Clarke.)—These two Nos. are truly useful tracts; for the one is the "Life of Lady Russell," and the other Dr. Channing on Slavery; very different, but both very interesting.

Dr. Larner's *Cabinet Cyclopædia*, Vol. LXXXVIII. History. (London, Longman and Co.)—The fourth volume of this series, and brings us down to 387 n.c.

Biblical Cabinet, No. 12. (Edinburgh, Clarke.)—Exposition of the 1st Epistle of Peter, translated from the German of W. Steiger, by the Rev. P. Fairbairn. It displays a good deal of biblical erudition and a highly evangelical spirit.

A *Philosophical and Practical View of the Social bearing and Importance of Education*, &c., by J. Antrobus. 8vo. pp. 302. (London, Longman and Co.; Hatchard and Son.)—We rejoice to see this most important subject employing the minds and pens of so many intelligent men. Mr. Antrobus essays, demonstrating that the only true foundation of a good education is to be laid in the Christian religion, deserve great attention on account of the principles they so ably maintain; while his historical illustrations will be found to bear with strong interest on his graver arguments.

A *Treatise on the Ailments and Nervous Diseases, and on a new Mode of Treatment of the Eye and Ear*, by A. Turnbull, M.D. 3d edition, 8vo. pp. 161. (London, Churchill.)—Dr. Turnbull thinks he has discovered in the tincture from *Aconitum napellus*, which he calls aconitine, a specific for various nervous diseases; and supports his opinion by strong cases and arguments in this volume.

The *Alouse Stripped out of the Church*, &c. Pp. 19. (London, Alfes and Fletcher.)—"A Member of the Senate," Cambridge, has, in this brief pamphlet, addressed to the university representatives in parliament, shewn, in a calm and dispassionate manner, that much of the evil of which the church has to complain, may be ascribed to the anomalous and unpriestly condition of curates, who, instead of being independent functionaries, are subject to various errors of position, which tend to the wrong and injury of the whole ecclesiastical body.

*Letter to H. W. Tancore, Esq. M.P. on the Ballot*, by the Rev. Alex. Crombie, LL.D. F.R.S. Pp. 51. (London, Simpkin, Marshall, and Co.)—A temperate and sensible exposition of the system of ballot; in which the political benefits said to be anticipated from that subterfuge are contrasted with its moral effects, in depraving and debasing the electors of England. Ballot may truly be called the *Coccard's and Rascals's Refuge*; and the only wonder is, to see manly and honest individuals so besotted as to suppose it could ever be productive of any sort of good.

## ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE.

### ANGLO-CHINESE COLLEGE.

As it may be interesting to the public to know the nature and objects of the Anglo-Chinese College, to which we lately alluded (*Lit. Gaz.* No. 1050), we insert the following extract from a recent proceeding of the committee of correspondence of the Royal Asiatic Society upon the subject:—

"The chairman (Sir Alexander Johnston) states to the committee, that the letters which he has received from the various corresponding members of the Society, in China and in India, shew that the Anglo-Chinese College at Malacca is likely soon to become a most powerful engine in diffusing moral and political knowledge and civilisation throughout China, and the islands of the Chinese seas; and that the Asiatic Society, anxious as it always is, to continue and increase the influence of such an engine, may advantageously, at the present moment, direct the attention of the British public and the British government to this valuable institution, by recalling to their recollection the very enlightened and statesmanlike opinions upon the subject which have been given, as well in his speeches in the House of Commons as in various interesting accounts which he has written on China, by Sir George Staunton, to whose liberal patronage and munificent donations the college is so much indebted. The chairman further submits, that such measures as may be necessary ought, as soon as possible, to

be taken for drawing up such a catalogue of all the books in the Chinese language, presented by Sir George Staunton to the library, as may enable the members of this Society and the public to become acquainted with the contents of those very curious and very valuable works; and that the following short account of the nature and objects of the Anglo-Chinese College should be copied upon the proceedings of the committee from Sir George Staunton's speech in the House of Commons on the 13th of June, 1833:—

"*Object.—The Reciprocal Cultivation of Chinese and European Literature.*—On the one hand, the Chinese language and literature will be made accessible to Europeans; and, on the other hand, the English language, with European literature and science, will be made accessible to the Ultra-Ganges nations who read Chinese. These nations are, China, Cochin-China, the Chinese colonies in the Eastern Archipelago, Loo-Choo, Corea, and Japan. The Malay language, and Ultra-Ganges literature, generally, are included as subordinate objects.

"*What Advantages the College Proposes to Afford to Students.*—1. The college will be furnished with an extensive library of Chinese, Malay, and European books. 2. The assistance of European professors of the Chinese language, and of native Chinese tutors. The European professors will be Protestants. 3. A fund will be formed for the maintenance of poor students. 4. To European students, the Chinese language will be taught for such purposes as the students choose to apply it—to religion, to literature, or to commerce. 5. To native students, the English language will be taught; geography, history, moral philosophy, and Christian theology, and such other branches of learning or science as time and circumstances may allow. 6. There is at the station an English, Chinese, and Malay press, which literary students may avail themselves of. And it is intended ultimately to form a botanical garden, in connexion with the college, to collect under one view the tropical plants of the Eastern Archipelago.

"*Students to be Admitted.*—Persons from any nation in Europe, or from America; persons of any Christian communion, bringing with them proper testimonials of their moral habits, and of the objects they have in view; persons from European or other universities, having travelling fellowships; persons belonging to commercial companies; and persons attached to the establishments of the official representatives of foreign nations, who wish to become acquainted with the Chinese language, will be admitted. Also native youths belonging to China, and its tributary kingdoms, or to any of the islands and countries around, who either support themselves, or are supported by Christian societies, or by private gentlemen, who wish to serve them, by giving them the means of obtaining a knowledge of the elements of English literature, will be admitted."

## ARTS AND SCIENCES.

### STATISTICAL SOCIETY.

MR. PORTER in the chair.—The communication read was by the chairman, being some account of the public works which were in progress, or recently completed, in France, at the end of 1835. Part 1st, Inland navigation. By a law passed in June 1833, a special credit, amounting to forty-four millions of francs (1,760,000*l.*), for the completion of can-

nals; of fifteen millions of francs (600,000*l.*), for perfecting high roads; of twelve millions of francs (480,000*l.*), for constructing military roads in the western departments; of two millions and a half of francs (100,000*l.*), for completing the system of lighthouses along the coast of France; and of half a million of francs (20,000*l.*), for prosecuting inquiries concerning rail-roads; making together seventy-four millions of francs, or 2,960,000*l.*,—was placed at the disposal of the government by the legislative chambers: and the author gives a brief account of the progress that had been made, at the end of 1835, towards the completion of the objects contemplated at the passing of the above law, full particulars of which are contained in papers presented to the French chambers last year by the minister of commerce and public works. More than half the sum voted by the chambers was made applicable to the formation and completion of canals. The statement of the minister of public works describes eleven lines of canals, besides operations by which two rivers have been rendered navigable. These works appear to have been all undertaken at periods anterior to June 1833, and to have had considerable progress made towards their completion at that date: funds were wanting, however, and they were finished under the vote of the chambers. The following table presents an abstract of the whole:—

Name of Canal.	Length in English Miles.	Number of Locks.	Rise and Fall in English Feet.	Money expended previous to 1825, stated in English Money.	Amount of Loan raised in August 1825, stated in English Money.	Advanced out of Public Treasury beyond the foregoing sums, previous to the law of June 1833.	Expended under the law of June 1833, stated in English Money.	Total cost at the end of 1835, stated in English Money.
Rhone and Rhine	177	126	126	£40,882	£400,000	£101,801	£20,489	£1,003,262
Saone	91	53	178	80,000	380,000	78,489	30,400	445,262
Ardenne	61	49	406	658,238	1,330,000	156,389	84,916	2,049,543
Burgundy	141	101	158	60,000	1,143,000	256,177	108,730	1,707,907
Narbonne and Brete	218	238	1706	17,000	256,256	309,601	7,000	1,000,000
Artois	34	27	103	156,532	350,000	2,440	10,451	107,104
Artois and Bouc	27	4	103	146,693	320,000	66,050	10,451	444,094
Nievers	103	117	745	230,000	330,000	292,388	183,599	1,005,987
Berri	181	110	757	106,703	400,000	50,545	55,696	602,534
Loire	134	45	323	—	400,000	220,141	171,859	511,600
Seine	140	39	227	—	100,000	58,905	56,641	104,006
Elbe	71	—	—	—	120,000	07,768	52,500	202,088
Elbe	140	—	—	—	5,444,000	1,001,543	1,070,669	10,773,230

At the anniversary meeting, held a few days previously, a very gratifying report was read. It stated, amongst other things, that the secretary of state for the colonies had expressed himself willing and anxious to promote a correspondence between the Society and the colonies; and had offered to transmit to the authorities there any communication from the Society, and to recommend such inquiries as it might be desirable to institute.—Sir Charles Lemon was re-elected president: the other officers stand nearly as heretofore.—The auditors' report gave much satisfaction.

## METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY.

## Anniversary Meeting.

ON Tuesday, 14th, Dr. Birkbeck, president, in the chair, after the routine proceedings, several interesting papers were read, from Poole, Gosport, Cheltenham, High Wycombe, London, and Edmonton, descriptive of the remarkable atmospheric phenomenon which was seen on the night of the 18th of February last. Other papers were read on various meteorological subjects; one of which was from New York, America, giving an account of the weather, and the state of the thermometer at noon, on the first eight days in January, 1837, proving the low temperature that prevailed in both continents at that period. The laws of the Society, in their revised state, were then read, and ordered to be confirmed at the next ordinary meeting.

**Ashmolean Society, March 6.**—Professor Rigaud gave an interesting account of a portion of the MS. collections in the library of the Earl of Macclesfield, at Shirlburn Castle, from which it appears that much has been said of the valuable library possessed by the father of Sir William Jones; but the accounts of it have all agreed in stating that, as a collection, it is no longer in existence. Dr. Hutton distinctly says that, after Mr. Jones's death, his manuscripts were dispersed; another story fixed the dispersion at the death of George, the second earl of Macclesfield, to whom the whole was left in 1749; and Nichols speaks of the library being sold in 1801: but, notwithstanding these circumstantial statements, the collection has been kept together entire, and is now preserved at Shirlburn Castle. The letters which it contains from mathematicians of the seventeenth and beginning of the eighteenth centuries are particularly curious; and, although a certain number of them has been inserted in various works, and particularly in the General Dictionary, by Birch and Lockman, the larger part still remains unpublished, and the whole are now (by the liberal permission of the Earl of Macclesfield) in Oxford, that a selection may be made from them, and communicated, through the university press, to the scientific world.—Dr. Daubeny read some scientific notices from Mr. Tancred, in which Mr. Tancred gave an account of an unusual flood of the river Lerchis, near the Baths of Lucca, which took place on the 2d of October last, when the river rose suddenly to the height of 18 feet 4 inches above its usual level. At Florence, Mr. Tancred saw the collection of specimens of the different parts of the human body, and other animal substances, which the Signor Segato has contrived to preserve from putrefaction. The method by which the preservation has been effected is unknown, and will remain so, as the Signor Segato died without imparting the knowledge of his method to any one. His death was occasioned by vexation, brought on by the refusal of the government to assist him in his undertaking, to which they were persuaded by the priests. Now, however, that he is dead, they so far value the collection that they have refused to permit it to go out of the country. Mr. Tancred also gave an account of an instrument invented by Professor Amici, at Modena, for measuring angles; and mentioned the recent discovery of some microscopic infusoria in a white sort of tripoli, called in Tuscan *pietra della luna*, from Monte St. Tiora, which has hitherto been considered a volcanic production. Dr. Buckland informed the meeting that he had received a letter from Mr. Crosse, detailing the results of a new series

of experiments, by which he has succeeded in obtaining 100 more animals, of the same description as those obtained by previous experiments. On a piece of volcanic slag, connected with the electric wires at both ends, a fluid, containing silicic and muriatic acid, was gently dropped. The animals, soon after their formation, were washed off from the slag, and deposited in a wooden funnel underneath. Without muriatic acid, the same animals were formed; but when no electricity was used, the animals did not appear. The animals have been exhibited at the Royal Institution, by Mr. Faraday; whence originated the erroneous report that Mr. Faraday had, by a series of similar experiments, produced the same animals. The animals were, at first, supposed to be *infusoria*, similar to those discovered by the microscopic observations of Ehrenberg; but, upon being shewn to naturalists in London, they are discovered to be of a much higher order, very closely resembling the well-known *acari* which infest cabinets, with the exception that they have no hairs. It was, however, suggested by Dr. Buckland, that the hairs, most probably, had adhered to the gum used to stick them on the card, or had been rubbed off by friction during their carriage to London.—*Oxford Herald.*

## LITERARY AND LEARNED.

## ROYAL SOCIETY.

THE Earl of Burlington in the chair.—A communication on the tides, by Mr. Lubbock, was read. The author, in the commencement of his paper, notices the striking agreement between Bernouilli's theory and the results of the tide observations made at the London Docks. He then inquires whether the removal of the old bridge has occasioned any difference in the time or flow of the tide. In 1832, none of that ancient structure was removed; in the following year, almost the whole of it was taken away; and, in 1834, it was finally removed. During these periods, high-water was nearly as late as in 1804, and as it is now. Mr. Lubbock, in handsome terms, acknowledges the liberality of the British Association, in granting a sum of money for the purpose of obtaining good tide observations; he then notices a curious MS. on the tides, written in the thirteenth century, by an Abbot of St. Alban's; from the remarks in which it appears, that the difference in these phenomena at that period, as compared with the present, is considerable. Mr. Lubbock's results are laid down in diagrams, without which he himself admits they cannot be well understood. A ballot was had for Dr. Roberts; the result was, 16 negative to 10 affirmative balls. Dr. Roberts was, consequently, not elected into the Society. The meetings were adjourned over the Easter recess, until the 6th of April.

## ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

MARCH 18. At the meeting this day, the president, Mr. Williams Wynn, announced that, in consequence of the recent decease of Mr. Henry Thomas Colebrooke, to whom the Society owed a debt of exceeding gratitude, not only for its formation, but also, for the constant labour and attention he had bestowed upon it from the first year of its existence, the council had judged proper, as a mark of respect due to the memory of the venerable founder of the Society, and as a token of regret for the loss the Society had sustained, to adjourn the meeting of that day without proceeding to any business whatever. The meeting was consequently adjourned.

## LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

**Monday.**—British Architects, 8 p.m.; Marylebone Literary (Mr. J. Hemming on Chemistry), 8½ p.m.; Russell Institution (Mr. H. Goadby, Third Lecture on Insect Anatomy), 8 p.m.  
**Tuesday.**—Royal Medical and Chirurgical, 8½ p.m.; Civil Engineers, 8 p.m.; Zoological, 8½ p.m.; Lambeth Literary (Mr. Henderson on Education), 8½ p.m.  
**Wednesday.**—Society of Arts, 7½ p.m.  
**Thursday.**—Western Literary (Mr. Brimbley on the Causes of Shipwreck), 8½ p.m.; Russell Institution (Mr. Oxenford's Second Lecture on German Literature; Goethe), 8 p.m.  
**Saturday.**—Royal Asiatic, 2 p.m.

## FINE ARTS.

## THE EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS.

OF this pleasing Exhibition, with its novelties and varieties, it is now "our hint to speak;" which, as it has been open to the public for some days, we are better able to do than after a hasty glance at a private view. We are much mistaken if it will not be generally considered more attractive than any of its precursors.

First in our regard stands

199. *The Prisoner of Chillon*, from Byron's *Poem*. F. Y. Hurlstone.—The subject is one of deep pathos, and well calculated to develop the talents of an artist. As Byron's description much resembles Dante, so Mr. Hurlstone's picture cannot fail to remind every one of the *Ugolino* of Reynolds. The expression of the eldest of the brothers, wan as his features have become, is full of the energy prompted by what may be termed quiet despair. To him is well contrasted the yet unfaded bloom of the youngest,—

"——— the favourite and the flower,  
Most cherished since his natal hour."

doom'd, however,

"——— day by day,  
To wither on the stalk away."

In the back-ground is the third brother, over whose otherwise determined spirit hopeless captivity is prevailing. It is impossible to contemplate the group without emotion.

On the opposite side of the room we find subjects nearer home, and which belong to the age we live in.

35. *The Fruits of Idleness.* 45. *The Fruits of Industry.* E. Prentiss.—It is much to the credit of this artist that his works are all of a domestic and highly moral character. He has here illustrated the contrast between good and evil with great skill. In the one, the family of a young poacher, who has returned, wounded, from the scene of his illicit practices, are represented as anxiously employed in affording him relief. In the other, a labourer, surrounded by every comfort, is sitting down, with his wife and children, to a cheerful repast—the superfluity of which furnishes the means of charity. These pictures are painted in Mr. Prentiss's usual and careful style. In rural districts, lithographic prints of them might be advantageously distributed among the working classes.

65. *A Conference in the Shades: Buonaparte is vindicating his policy; Byron listening in lofty abstraction; Scott deliberately scrutinising the arguments of Napoleon.* J. P. Davis.—The title too fully describes this production to render any further explanation necessary. It is an ingenious device to bring together the portraits of three master-minds. The effect of it upon the spectator must very much depend upon the power of his own imagination: while one person will bestow upon it only a transient glance, another will stand before it for hours, absorbed in deep reflection.

132. *The Valley of Mexico.* D. T. Egerton.—In extent of prospect, and in the multiplicity,

and we may add beauty, of the objects introduced, we have seldom seen so novel and interesting a view. The various localities are pointed out in the catalogue, and the manner in which they are executed bears intrinsic evidence of the fidelity of the representation. As a work of art, it is skilfully painted; and the aerial perspective (considered with reference to the climate), and the proportion of one object to another, are very happily preserved.

180. *Richmond, from the Towing-path, near Cholmondeley Walk.* T. C. Holland. — This queen of our suburbs is here introduced to public view, in her summer costume, by an artist whose pencil, although occasionally employed on the sublimities of nature, has been more frequently, and more happily, devoted to the imitation of her softer and blander features. In this performance, the beauties of Richmond will be instantly recognised, with feelings of pleasure, by all who have visited the spot; and will inspire all who have not visited it with a desire to do so.

41. *Vico, in the Bay of Naples*; 158. *A Scene on the Tiber, with Monte Mario*; *St. Peter's in the Distance.* W. Linton. — We bring these two classical and elevated views in juxtaposition, for the purpose of adverting to the powerful contrast which they present in colour and effect. The first is wrapped in that mysterious light which one of our greatest poets has termed "darkness visible;" on the second, the sunbeams shed their most brilliant and animating influence. Both are admirable.

The mantle of the principal room exhibits three familiar and domestic subjects, by artists distinguished for the fidelity and skill with which they depict the objects of their imitation; viz. 62. *The Wedding Gown*, R. Farrier; 63. *The Cobbler*, W. Shayer; 64. *The Confidante*, T. Clater. The last is a candle-light scene, painted with great depth and effect. The goose, undergoing the operation of plucking, with its fallen feathers, may challenge the competition of any artist, English or Flenish.

111. *Heath Scene.* R. B. Davis. — Different in kind from any of the last-mentioned works, but not less faithful in representation, this little performance comes recommended by novelty in form, character, and composition. A stricken deer has sought the shelter of a clump of trees, in which to breathe its last. The sentiment is touching; but the effect of the colouring is brilliant and pleasant.

(To be continued.)

#### NEW PUBLICATIONS.

*Picturesque Sketches in Spain*; taken during the years 1832 and 1833. By David Roberts. Hodgson and Graves.

EVERY artist, quoad artist, must lament the Reformation. As a man, he may be rejoiced at his liberation from the superstition, bigotry, and intolerance, of the Romish church; but, as a painter, he cannot reflect without regret on its magnificent and picturesque ceremonials, and on the facilities which the noble edifices, where those ceremonials were performed, afforded for the exhibition of the finest productions of the pencil and chisel. This is a feeling which the superb volume before us will greatly increase. There is no country in which all the gorgeous pageantry of the Catholic religion has been, and still is, so profusely and ostentatiously displayed as in Spain; and a large proportion of these sketches (twenty-six in number) are devoted to its illustration by Mr. Roberts; with what success, his former works render it unnecessary for us to say. The Cathedral of Seville, especially, has furnished

him with admirable subjects; of which the most grand and striking are, "The High Altar, during the celebration of Mass," and "The North Aisle, with the Procession of the Host." Nor can any thing exceed the beauty of "The Chapel of Ferdinand and Isabella, at Granada," or "The Church of San Miguel, at Xeres." Contrasted in style with these is that fine relic of Saracenic architecture, "The Chapel in the Great Mosque, at Cordova." Of the sketches unconnected with ecclesiastical matters, "The Rock of Gibraltar facing the Neutral Ground," and "The Bull Ring, at Seville," are among the most interesting. Several of these charming drawings have been transferred to stone by Mr. Roberts himself; but in others he has received the able assistance of Messrs. Allom, Boys, Cooper, Gaudel, and Haghe.

*Asking a Blessing.* Painted by A. Fraser; engraved by C. G. Lewis. Hodgson and Graves.

A PLEASING domestic subject in middle life. A father, mother, and child, sitting down to dinner; and, before they commence their meal, imploring the continued protection of that Being to whose bounty they owe it. The graceful piety, or the pious grace, of the female is especially attractive.

#### ORIGINAL POETRY.

ON THE NEW SCHOOL, ERECTED ON THE SITE OF HONEY LANE MARKET.

(By the Author of the "Epitaph on the Marquess of Anglesey's Leg.")

WHERE once thy market, Honey Lane,  
Display'd its shambles, blocks, and hooks.  
Proud learning now erects her fane,  
With scholars, masters, forms, and books.  
Where slaughtering kiddies would parade,  
With aprons blue, and greasy smalls,  
Young pupils, with professors' aid,  
Now qualify themselves for stalls.  
Where pussy once her prog might nose —  
Where sheep's' rights ever met the eye —  
We now seek other lights — e'en those  
Of his'try and philosophy.

Assuredly, though strange, 'tis droll,  
That readings, in a classic way,  
Where once the fish-fag dress'd the sole,  
Should be sole business of the day.

Yet all's not changed, some have declared,  
And this I candidly avow;  
Where food was formerly prepared,  
There's food for contemplation now:

And, certainly, it may be said,  
Nor think with gammon I would bore,  
Where Bacon now is daily read,  
Bacon was known, and prized of yore.

Events in mystic cycles run,  
The wise to baffle with the fool;  
The school comes where the market's done —  
A market may succeed the school.

And o'er me comes the idea strong,  
In this, or in a future reign,  
Where rumps were daily cut so long,  
They daily may be cut again.

#### BIOGRAPHY.

*The late Mr. John Davidson.* — The intrepid traveller, Mr. Davidson, was the son of Mr. Davidson, tailor, in Cork Street, who, by his great industry and perseverance, acquired a large fortune. His son, Mr. J. Davidson, was educated at the well-known establishment of Dr. Greenlaw, of Brentford, where he obtained a good classical education. In the year 1814

he was bound apprentice, for five years, as a chemist and druggist, in the firm of Messrs. Savory and Moore; and, during its early period, conducted the operations of their laboratory. Owing to this practice, and his own talents, he was, at the conclusion of his term, considered to be exceedingly clever in his profession. He afterwards entered as a partner into that eminent firm, in the year 1819; but, from his great desire to travel, and circumstances to which we formerly alluded, he quitted it in 1826; and thence, up to the time of his death, he has travelled, in common parlance, nearly all over the world. He was master of most of the continental and oriental languages, and a perfect chemist. The Emperor of Morocco will, no doubt, feel his loss, as he entered into an arrangement with that potentate to return by way of Morocco and instruct the physicians there in the art of medicine and pharmacy; in the prospect of which, he had ordered two large cases of medicine to be prepared and sent to the emperor. It was in consideration of this that the emperor gave him an escort of one hundred horsemen to see him safe across part of his dominions. The public, as well as his friends, deeply deplore the loss of this amiable young man; and none more so than the writer (from whom we have derived this information), who knew him as a boy, and also as a man, and who always experienced the most friendly feeling from him.

#### DRAMA.

THE drama is all perspective at this holiday-time. Macready, we rejoice to see announced again, after his severe illness, at Covent Garden. The Adelphi promises the *Lily of the Danube*; and, as lilies don't spin, we anticipate very slight clothing. The St. James's has another piece by Mrs. S. C. Hall, in which Mr. Goldsmid, the admirable mime, appears pro Barnett, gone into country quarters. The Strand re-opens with Mr. Hammond and his company, and Jerrold pieces. The Olympic dramatises the *Rape of the Lock*, and Ducrow ditto *Iranhoe*.

#### VARIETIES.

THE London University has had the apartments lately occupied by the Royal Academy, in Somerset House, assigned to it by government; wherein to transact the business of the University under its new charter, in granting degrees, and other matters.

*Royal Academy of Music.* — The first of the series of four concerts, for exhibiting to the public the progress and advantages of this national institution, was given at the Hanover Square Rooms, on Saturday last. We regret to say, that our expected details (owing, perhaps, to holiday and Good Friday interruption) have not reached us; but we can generally state that the performances were highly satisfactory.

Mr. Howell has, during the week, been exhibiting his beautiful *Eidouranian* at the Adelphi, with great applause.

*Lambeth Literary and Scientific Institution.* — At the last meeting, Mr. Daniel Cooper delivered a lecture here, being a continuation of the course on Cryptogamic Botany. The *Fungi*, or mushrooms, were fully considered. To illustrate the lecture, several beautiful models, executed by the late Mr. Sowerby, were exhibited; which were kindly lent by Mr. C. E. Sowerby.

The *Southern Literary Messenger*, for January 1837, which we have to acknowledge, from Richmond, U. S. (London, Miller), is a fair specimen of American periodical and polite



literature, in prose and verse; and, as such, deserves attention and encouragement from English readers. Ninety-six pages, and double columns, make a No. almost a Volume.

*Continental and British Medical Review, No. 1.*—If we may judge from the increasing number of medical publications and periodicals, the science must be flourishing. The present novelty, edited by Dr. B. Riosfre, seems to us to be judiciously executed; and we conceive it will be advantageous to us to learn the opinion of intelligent foreigners relating to many of our sayings and doings.

*The Country between St. Sebastian and the French Frontier.* (London, J. Wyld.)—A map of this part of the seat of war has just appeared, from sketches by Major J. H. Humfrey, and is peculiarly acceptable at this period, when General Evans and the Carlists are fighting about the very places here mapped down. It may well be called a useful companion to the newspapers, and the news from Spain.

*Catone.*—A lithographic portrait of this new and popular singer has just appeared, from the pencil of Chalon and the stone of Lane. It is an admirable likeness of the original in the character of *Nemorino*, in *L'Elisir d'Amore*, which part he has made peculiarly his own. His feet are a match for those of Cinderella in the fairy tale—wondrous small.

*Pauline Duvernay*, by the same hands, is by no means so good. The likeness is very fair, but the attitude so constrained and strange, that it is not easy to tell whether it is a front or a back view of this graceful person.

*Weather-wisdom.*—Lieut. Morrison made a capital hit on the 21st and 22d; at least there was a fall of snow more like Christmas than Lady-day season. About the 25th and 26th, the prediction is "gloomy and cold; high winds, and heavy, long cirro-stratus clouds. Moist and cloudy weather, yet less cold about the 28th. The air much milder, more dry and pleasant, though windy, about the 29th. The 31st, changeable." For our author, we may fairly say, that he does not shirk the question. There is "no day before, or day after," but all most distinct and particular.

*Shakespeare's Monument.*—We are glad to learn that the design for the restoration of this monument, and the chancel of Stratford Church, is gradually receiving the patronage it so richly merits. Mr. Britton's plan for ornamenting the ceiling of the latter with the armorial shields of Warwickshire noblemen and gentlemen is an admirable idea, and would have a splendid effect. Who would not, even in this slight degree, link their name with that of the Immortal?

*Ancient Entomology.*—Mr. Crosse, in a letter addressed to the *Times*, states, in regard to the unexpected appearance of insects in his electrical experiments, that he has "given no opinion whatever as to the cause of their first production; having, as he first stated, mentioned 'facts, but not opinions.'" He adds, "without more data than we at present possess, I do not see how it is possible to form an opinion on the matter, or to say whether the electric agency is, or is not, the secondary cause or acceleration of their birth. Since my two first [first two] experiments, I have met with eight other results, in which similar insects have appeared: in the whole, ten separate formations. Five of these have been in silicious solutions, and five in other fluids; one of them, a concentrated solution of nitrate of copper. In all of these the electrical action was long continued before the insect made its appearance; but this might have been the case otherwise. In the course

of my observations, I have met with some rather curious phenomena, which shall be laid before the public when the train of experiments now in hand, and which must necessarily occupy some time, is completed." In conclusion, the writer justly thanks Mr. Faraday "for the candour and liberality he has evinced towards him."

At a meeting of the Philosophical Society, Cambridge, a paper, by Mr. Warren, of Jesus College, was read.—On the algebraical sign of the perpendicular drawn from a given point to a given straight line. Mr. C. Darwin exhibited various specimens of rocks collected by him in a voyage round the world, made in H. M. S. Beagle, Capt. Fitzroy, and occupying five years. These specimens were tubes of fused sand, produced by lightning, found near the Rio Plata; a white calcareous incrustation alternately formed and removed on the rocks of Ascension Island by a periodical change in the direction of the swell; a black incrustation formed by the spray on the tidal rocks at Ascension; a white hard calcareous rock, formed rapidly at Ascension; a recent calcareous formation indurated by the contact of lava at St. Jago, one of the Cape Verde Islands. Mr. W. W. Fisher afterwards presented an account of a case of *Spina bifida*, accompanied with some physiological and pathological researches on the accumulation of fluid in the ventricles of the brain.

#### LITERARY NOVELTIES.

*Dr. Dibdin's Bibliographical and Antiquarian Tour in Scotland.*—We are glad to see preliminary signs of this Tour in the Edinburgh journals, having heard some interesting details of it in parts, when on a Scottish tour ourselves last autumn. In public as well as private libraries (says an address from the Doctor), it was impossible to be more fortunate in attentions received and assistance granted; and if the pages of his work afford not evidence of the value of this aid—as well by the beauty of its decorations, as by the importance of its information—the author will have been labouring unto no commendable purpose.

Dr. Lassen, of Bonn, has, it is stated, completely succeeded in deciphering the inscriptions in the *crone-headed character*, copied by Niebuhr and other travellers from the ruins of Persepolis, and of which he has framed an entire alphabet. The discovery is confirmed, both by the similarity of the inscriptions themselves, in style and expression, to those still extant of other nations, and by their approximation to what we possess of ancient Persian. The particulars will, we are informed, shortly appear in English.

Mr. Frederick Wagnenfeld announces, in the German journals, a translation into Latin of his recently discovered Greek MS. of *Sancti Hieronymi's Phisiciana Historia*, complete in nine books; a summary of which has recently been published in Germany. We learn that an English critic means to bring in question the authenticity of the volume, on grounds totally different from the writers of Germany.

#### In the Press.

A Work upon Natural Theology, by Mr. Babidge.

#### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

The Star-Seer, a Poem, by W. Dearden, 8vo. 7s. 6d.—The Practice of the Court of Common Pleas, at Lancaster, by W. Wareing, cr. 8vo. 15s.—The First Three Sections of Newton's Principia, with an Appendix, and the Ninth and Eleventh Sections, by J. H. Evans, M.A. 8vo. 6s.—The Hunterian Oration, by Sir B. C. Brodie, Bart. 8vo. 2s.—Letters on Phenology, by John Stade, M.D. 8vo. 9s.—The Married Unmarried, 3 vols. post 8vo. 1l. 11s. 6d.—Rev. H. Latham's Harmonia Paulina, 8vo. 12s.—Winkler's French Cathedral, 4to. 1l. 10s.—Britannia's Glory, by T. Thompson, 18mo. 3s.—History of Protestant Nonconformity on Great Britain, 12mo. 3s. 6d.—Thoughts on Times Past tested by Subsequent Events, by the Duke of Newcastle, royal 12mo. 5s.—Pastoral Appeals on Conversion, by the Rev. C. Stovel, 18mo. 2s. 6d.—The Country Solicitor's Practice in Chancery, by J. Gray, 12mo. 10s.—Edinburgh Cabinet Library, Vol. XXII. Life of King Henry VIII. by P. H. Tytler, Esq. 18mo. 5s.—Spain, by H. D. Inglis, 2d edition, 2 vols. post 8vo. 1l. 1s.—Rev. H. Melville's Sermons at Cambridge, 1837, 5s.—Sermons, by the late Rev. T.cott, with a Memoir by the Rev. S. King, 8vo. 10s. 6d.—Christian Trials, by the Author of "Bread of Deceit," 18mo. 2s. 6d.—The Philosophy of Living, by H. Mayo, F.R.S. post 8vo. 8s. 6d.—Turner's Sacred History of the World, Vol. III. 8vo. 14s.—A. Colles on the Venereal, 8vo. 9s.—W. H. Porter on the Surgical Pathology of the Larynx and Trachea, 8vo. 8s.—M. Guizot's History of Civilisation in Europe, from the Fall of the Roman Empire to the French Revolution, 8vo. 12s.—The Chase,

the Turf, and the Road, by Nimrod, with Illustrations, 8vo. 16s.—Memoirs of a Peeres; or, the Days of Fox, edited by Lady C. Bury, 3 vols. post 8vo. 1l. 11s. 6d.

#### METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL, 1837.

March.	Thermometer.	Barometer.
Thursday .. 16	From 31 to 42	29.99 to 30.05
Friday .. 17	.... 31 .. 41	.... 30.17 .. 30.19
Saturday .. 18	.... 31 .. 41	.... 30.17 .. 30.02
Sunday .. 19	.... 24 .. 41	.... 29.90 .. 29.91
Monday .. 20	.... 24 .. 37	.... 29.87 .. 29.86
Tuesday .. 21	.... 17 .. 37	.... 29.86 .. 29.72
Wednesday 22	.... 22 .. 39	.... 29.71 .. 29.70

Prevailing winds, N.E.

Except the mornings of the 19th, 21st, and evening of the 20th, generally cloudy; rain on the 16th and 17th; snow on the 20th, and two following days; remarkably cold.

Rain fallen, .025 of an inch.

Edmonton.

CHARLES HENRY ADAMS.

Latitude ..... 51° 37' 32" N.

Longitude .... 3 51, W. of Greenwich.

Extracts from a Meteorological Register kept at High Wycombe, Bucks, by a Member of the Meteorological Society. February 1837.

Thermometer—Highest.....	55.25 .. the 16th.
Lowest .....	25.30 .. 25th.
Mean .....	40.45 35th.
Barometer—Highest.....	30.09 .. 31.
Lowest .....	28.85 .. 11th.
Mean .....	29.67 59th.

Number of days of rain and snow, 17.

Quantity of rain and melted snow, in inches and decimals, 3.0625.

Winds.—North-East—5 East—5 South-East—1 South—7 South-West—4 West—5 North-West—1 North.

*General Observations.*—This was the warmest February that has occurred during the last thirteen years, although the maximum was not so high as in the corresponding months, in 1828 and 1831; but the range was nearly thirty degrees. The mean of the barometer was higher than usual for the month; although the maximum was lower than the average. Snow fell on the night of the 26th and morning of the 27th, but did not lie long on the ground, which was only partially covered. The quantity of rain and melted snow has been exceeded only four times in the same month in the period before mentioned. On the night of the 18th, about half past ten o'clock, the heavens were illuminated by a brilliant arch, of about ten degrees in breadth, of a deep red, or vermilion colour, formed by two streams of light; the one arising in the north-east, passing over Arcturus and Ursa major, and the other originating in the south-west, leaving Orion to the southward, passing over Aldebaran and Capella, and meeting in the zenith, where the light was very faint. The western limb was the brightest, and, at intervals, shot forth rays of light approaching to a flame colour; the edges of the main stream were then fringed, and had a feathery appearance; the eastern leg of the arch was the first that began to fade, spreading wider, and becoming fainter, when that part of the sky was mottled, like that called mackerel sky, but still retaining its red tint; the stars were seen through the aurora, which had nearly disappeared by eleven o'clock, the moon all the time shining brightly and nearly at the meridian, the planet Mars almost touching her south-eastern limb, and Jupiter being but a short distance from her to the westward. The barometer stood at 29.37, and the temperature was forty degrees, a light breeze blowing from the westward.

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"The Literary Gazette," which last week contradicted, in an abrupt and somewhat impertinent manner, our intelligence respecting the death of Mr. Davidson, ought to have exhibited the courtesy of confessing its error."

Times of Monday.

We can assure the *Times* that we meant nothing impertinent; and we hope it may be able to say the same, in using the above lines. Our expressions were,—"There is no authentic account of his death in London, and it rests on the paragraph in the *Times* newspaper."

We have too high an opinion of the "intelligence" in that journal to undervalue it upon any point; but we understood it, from a paragraph subsequent to the first, to have itself some doubt of the absolute certainty of its sad news; and, being anxious to catch hold of even a last hope for the consolation of the traveller's friends, we hastily adopted the latest accounts we could obtain, without time or mind to weigh the words minutely. In another part of our impression will be found a few particulars respecting Mr. Davidson, which the *Times* is very welcome to copy without acknowledgement, in revenge. Of which, *adapting*, no week passes in which extracts are not made from the *Literary Gazette*, by every one of the leading newspapers in London, without the slightest allusion to their source. Of this we do not complain, for many of them may be taken indirectly from the first paper which has unceremoniously copied us; but, for ourselves, we never insert a line of matter, not original, without stating whence it was derived.

We have always intended to give a second notice of "Attila," for its fine admixture of history and romance; but the temporary influx of new works of fiction has hitherto prevented us. Some other continuations of reviews are unavoidably postponed.

## ADVERTISEMENTS,

Connected with Literature and the Arts.

**BRITISH INSTITUTION,**  
PAUL MALL.  
The Gallery for the Exhibition and Sale of the Works of British Artists, is open daily from Ten in the Morning until Five in the Evening.

Admission, 1s.—Catalogue, 1s.

WILLIAM BARNARD, Keeper.

## SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS.

The Exhibition of the Society of British Artists, Suffolk Street, Pall Mall East, is now open to the Public, from Ten in the Morning till dusk.

Admission, 1s.

T. C. HOFLAND, Secretary.

## INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS, Incorporated 7th William IV. 43 King Street, Covent Garden, London.

Extract from the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Monday, 13th March, 1837.—  
Resolved,—That the Medals of the Institute be awarded next Year to the Authors of the best Essays on the following Subjects:—

1. On the excellencies which distinguish the Ancient Athenian Architecture, as compared with the modern, and the principles by which they were attained, with regard to design, proportion, light, shade, colour, construction, and adaptation to purpose, to situation, and to the materials employed.
2. On the system and principles pursued by the Gothic Architects, from the 11th to the 15th centuries inclusive, in the embellishment by colour of the architectural members and other parts of their Religious and Civil Edifices.
3. On the progressive improvement made during the last 100 years in the theory and practice of Construction, illustrated by diagrams and references to buildings.

N.B. Each Essay is to be written in a clear and distinct hand on alternate pages, and is to be distinguished by a Mark, or Motto, without any name attached thereto.

Resolved,—That the Same Medalion be awarded for the best restoration of some Priory, Abbey, or similar class of Conventual Building; such as Fountains, Kestby, Rivaux, or Kirkstall Abbey, Yorkshire—Castle Acre Priory, Norfolk—Llanthony Abbey, Monmouthshire, &c. &c. to be drawn from actual measurement, distinguishing in a marked manner the parts existing, and those restored to complete the combination of the Halls, Apartments, Refectory and Offices; accompanied by a description.

N.B. The wish of the Institute is to have a complete and correct delineation of the general arrangement and composition, rather than minute parts at large of the structure, or highly embellished details. The plan is to be as large as a sheet of double elephant paper will admit; and there are to be two elevations, as also two sections through the centre of the same to the same scale as the plan. The plan, elevations, and sections, to be tinted in Indian ink or sepia.

The competition is not confined to Members of the Institute. Further particulars and directions for Candidates may be had on application to the Secretaries by letter, post-paid.

3 St. James's Square, March 25.

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